General Discussion on the Budget,

PRESIDENT: The Budget is in your hands and we will now proceed to-day to the general discussion which will last to-day and to-morrow. The discussion on the demands and the voting on them will take place from Friday the 5th of August till the 12th inclusive, that is, for the seven days allowed by the Rules. The demands will be discussed in the order in which they are printed in the list, of which a copy, I think, has been given to you. One day each will be devoted to the Land Revenue, Education and Public Works Departments. Not more than half a day will be allotted to any other demand and they will have to be dealt with before the close of the seventh day. At the end of the time allotted for the discussion of each demand all pending motions in respect of it will lapse and at 5 o'clock on the seventh day, every question in connection with the disposal of all the remaining demands will be put to the House under Rule 49 (3).

As usual, every member, other than the Financial Secretary, will be allowed not more than 20 minutes during the general discussion. During the voting on demands for grants the movers and the official member who has got the right of reply will be allowed ten minutes each and the other members will be allowed five minutes. Motions on the Budget need not be seconded.

Official members may want to reply to your remarks to-day and to-morrow and I should be glad if non-official members will finish their speeches by 2 o'clock before lunch tomorrow.

RAO BAHADUR A. VENKATARAMA AIYAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Sir, I think it is our duty to congratulate the Financial Secretary upon his having placed before this House a surplus budget—when all the Provinces on the other side of the ghats and some of the sister States have not been able to balance their budgets—and that too, without proposing any fresh imposts increasing the burden of the people here. It is true that some of the sister States have succeeded in preparing a surplus budget for the current year. Even there, they have been able to do it only by the introduction of fresh imposts like income-tax. It is gratifying to note that the Financial Secretary has been able to prepare a budget balancing the receipts and expenditure and leaving a small surplus in spite of the economic depression that the people here, in common with the whole world, have been labouring under.

It is our duty to thank you, Sir, for having accepted the wishes of this House, in suspending the coercive processes for the recovery of arrears of revenue, expressed by a resolution that was passed the other day, and for your having acted on it promptly. In the nature of the depression that is prevailing now in the State, probably it may be doubtful whether we could be optimistic in saying that our expectation on the side of the receipts would be fulfilled strictly. But it is hoped that things would improve and that we would be able to see that the forecast now placed before us is fulfilled to the largest possible extent.

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I would in this connection point out that from the Appropriation Report of 1106 that has been sent up to us, it is seen that slight alterations had to be made in the expenditure on the ground of remission during the close of that year. It is a point for consideration whether it could not be possible to defer such remissions to the budget period and whether we should unsettle the forecast by introducing such things unless they are inevitable.

On the revenue side it is also a matter for the consideration of Government, whether, so far as our salt supply is concerned, our State could not be made self-contained and whether we could not see that the system of importing foreign salt for consumption could not be stopped. Certainly, it may not be possible to do it immediately; but I would suggest that it is desirable that it is done as early as possible.

There are several articles which are exported from here; and whether a small duty could not be levied on them is also a matter that has to be considered.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*): May I know whether the member is for increasing the export duty now levied?

RAO BAHADUR A. VENKATARAMA AIYAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): No. There are large quantities of articles which are not subject to any duty at all at present. Whether a small duty could not be levied on these articles of export is a matter for consideration. For instance, we export nux vomica and there are also other articles which we export in very large quantities. What I suggest is that a small duty can be levied on them. I am not at all for increasing the present export duties upon our stable products.

It is also a matter for consideration whether it is not necessary to meet the present economic distress, the present unemployment and the discontent on that account, and whether it is not necessary to attempt at an intense development of our economic resources, agricultural, commercial and industrial. It is desirable that attempts are made to see that this is done with the agencies now available. It has to be considered whether it would not be possible to start a separate department for commerce, placing it under one of our officers, and to see that proper statistical returns are obtained for promoting trade. In this connection, it is gratifying to note that the Government have been pleased to sanction the appointment of a trade agent at London. I may be permitted to say that much depends upon the choice of the person. One who will have vested interests in Travancore or one in whose hands the interests of Travancore tradesmen will be perfectly safe has to be chosen; for, otherwise, the position of Travancore tradesmen, agriculturists and industrialists would grow worse.

It has also to be observed that the Government should, as far as possible, see that the young men and women in Travancore are benefited by the provisions made in the budget under Industries, and that the young men and women of Travancore are given training in every form of work so that they may be able to conduct similar institutions of their own.

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[Rao Bahadur A. Venkatarama Aiyar.]

Once again, I congratulate the Government for having been able to place a balanced budget before the House.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Sir, the learned Deputy Peresident has already congratulated the Financial Secretary. That seems to offer a temptation to me also to offer my congratulations ; but, while congratulating the Financial Secretary for the able and the clear exposition of the financial position of the State in his speech, covering 25 full pages, I am very sorry, Sir, to say at the very outset that the budget, presented for the coming year, does not disclose that amount of devotion which the governing body ought to show towards the interests of the governed. Sir, I am aware that my congratulatoins are due to the Government for the provisions made in the budget, for the appointment of a trade agent in London and for the hydro-electric scheme at Pallivasal. These are the two progressive items which I can discover in the budget. That apart, this budget can be supported only if we accept the maxim, universally accepted, that all governments are institutions of increasing expenditure. The expenditure side of the budget shows that this maxim is applicable to the budget that has been presented in this House also for the coming year. At page 10 of the speech of the Financial Secretary, he says :

> "The demands of the several departments for expenditure in the next year were carefully scrutinised and the grants have been fixed after a full consideration of the urgent needs of the various departments."

In support of the statement, Sir, some portions of his speech, as well as the foot notes appended to the budget sheets, disclose the same arguments which have been repeated ten times in the past and answered a hundred times before; and the account sheets in the budget are printed and reprinted as they were before; and the common place lamentations, which may be called the economic malaise of the recent years, are also appearing in the very same tone of the politicians and economists of world-wide reputation. It would be seen from the budget that the Financial Secretary weeps over the decline in trade, depression of economics, delay in collections and dulness of the world markets. These are the slogans of the world now, and, after all, I cannot understand these arguments in the presentation of the State Budget. What are the conclusions that they lead to? I ask the question, is it for the justification of a balanced budget that these arguments are used? Of course, these arguments are capable of confronting common sense. They generate no conclusions. After all, the State itself is an aspect of human relationship and therefore the State Budget should embody the product of the needs of the people and not the products of the Government demands. This budget is nothing but the demand of the executive Government showing the expenditure as well as the revenue side of the financial position of the State. So, keeping these points in view, I shall make a few observations about the budget, leaving the more thorny canons of finance to be discussed by those people who think themselves more competent to do it. Even the learned

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Deputy President is congratulating the Financial Secretary for the surplus budget. The very difficult question arises with reference to the matters contained in the budget, whether it is a surplus or a deficit budget. I hold a different view and I have my own arguments to call this budget a deficit budget. I would not have lamented, however, even if this deficit budget happened to involve several lakhs of rupees on the minus side. But I am not enamoured of this small surplus budget.

Proceeding to analyse the budget, I find, Sir, as I have submitted already, that it is scarcely a surplus budget. Secondly, it is very niggardly in its provisions for the nation-building activities of the State such as communications, buildings, etc. Thirdly, it is marked by the hopeless inability of the Finance Member to control the expenditure for extravagances; and fourthly, it is marked by a tendency to go in for loans.

Coming to the first point, the most important thing with which we are concerned is its stingy provisions for the creation of national assets, *viz.*, communications, buildings, etc. Under this head, the allotment for buildings, in the year 1104, was 39·45 lakhs, for 1105 Rs. 39·05 lakhs, for 1106 Rs. 35·34 lakhs, for 1107 Rs. 27·85 lakhs and for the coming year Rs. 26·2 lakhs. For the coming year, the allotment for buildings and communications has been reduced by Rs. 13 lakhs as compared with the allotment for 1104. The Financial Secretary in paragraph 3 of his speech says:—

> "In view of the heavy fall in revenue realisations of 1106, the actuals of which were known only in the early part of the current year, the original estimates under all the revenue and service heads were scrutinised early this year and reductions to the extent of Rs. 6·43 lakhs were effected under travelling allowances, works and contingencies."

The actuals may be correct, from the point of view of the Financial Secretary. He has done his best to reduce the expenditure on the works I am referring to. But, again, in paragraph 5 of his speech, he says :—

> "The saving under Public Works is due to the postponement of some of the works which were not of a very urgent nature."

I ask the question from which point of view they were found to be not of a very urgent nature. Sir, I can assure the House that every work that we bring for the consideration of the Government has been found to be very necessary. If that necessity is conceded for a moment, the question of urgency does not arise at all, especially with reference to the works which have already been started during the course of the past three years. To make the point more clear, I can explain it with reference to my own constituency where half a dozen works have been started in the course of the past three years and all of them have been allowed to stand over on account of financial stringency or economic depression. From personal experience I can speak of works which have been completed, in some cases to the extent of one-fourth, others to the extent of half and several other works which have almost been completed, have been allowed to lie over with the consequence that the major portion of the money that has already been spent does not return any

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beneficial service to the people. I ask the question why the Government could not provide another three lakhs of rupees at least to complete works already started in the various taluks of the State. I think the position with reference to other taluks is the same as the taluk which I represent. With reference to the quotations that have been read out here, the Financial Secretary has been able to effect retrenchment in the Public Works Department to the extent of something like Rs. 20,000 under establishment and travelling allowances.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): May I correct the member? It is under establishment alone.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I am sorry. I think in the Financial Secretary's speech it is stated that the amount mentioned includes both these items.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): It does not include travelling allowance.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): The provision made this year under Public Works is Rs. 13 lakhs less than that for 1104. I ask the question, whether the same staff that has been working in 1104 is necessary to cope with the work when the allotment is less by Rs. 13 lakhs. I am confident that the amount allotted for works this year is very small. Out of the 7 Executive Engineers 3 can be abolished. Out of the 12 Assistant Engineers, 6 can be abolished. Out of the 5 Sub-Engineers, 2 can be abolished. And their staff can also be reduced proportionately; because the work that they are asked to carry out this year is only one-third of what they did in 1104. Anyhow, the allotment under this head is very meagre, and I want to put as much pressure upon the Government as they are prepared to receive to make more allotments under this head, because this is the only item in the whole budget with which we are directly concerned since it keeps us in touch with our constituencies. Otherwise all the taluks, as a matter of necessity, need not be represented in this House. Therefore, more money ought to be allotted for the creation of national assets which will create national activities and add national wealth.

Secondly, I want to deal with the hopeless inability of the Financial Secretary to control extravagant expenditure. In this connection, I propose to deal with the Department called the Public Health Department. The allotment for the coming year for this Department is Rs. 77,000. I attempted to know something about the activities of this Department in the State through this Council. I think the original idea, when this Department was created, was finally to amalgamate it with the Medical and Sanitary Departments after conducting some curative and preventive works in this State. At the beginning of the creation of this Department it had no administrative function. Now it seems that it is going to form a separate Department like the other Departments of Government. An establishment at a cost of Rs. 7,439 has been provided for at the headquarters. A special branch of the Department is to work with the Entomologist at a heavy cost of Rs. 23,304 and that the Entomologist himself is given two Assistant

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Surgeons, at a cost of Rs, 3,000, and a staff. For aught I know, the work of the Entomologist now is about the investigation of mosquitoes in the State, and the work of these two Assistant Surgeons deputed to work under him is simply to catch mosquitoes and to send them over to some T. B. where the Entomologist will examine them. I hope the idea of sending these Assistant Surgeons is to pick up work for future appointment.

MR. JOSEPH KUNJU (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): ഈ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ എത്ര കൊതുകുകളെ പിടിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു മെമ്പേക്കറിയാമോ?

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*): I do not think any Surgeon need be deputed for that. That can be done by anybody. Again, Sir the original idea—I suppose I am correct—was that the services of the Honorary Adviser would be employed in the initial stages of the organisation of the Department, and, after that, he would be leaving service here, leaving the work to be carried on by people whom we will get properly trained by that time. Now, I think that stage has come. This is a stage when we should have the whole scheme worked out by people whom we have got trained at considerable expense. But, now, a separate Department is developing. The period of service of the Entomologist was originally understood to be for one year. That time is being prolonged to another year, and I am sure that that place will be continued and he will be sticking to our service for another seven or eight years at least. Sir, I ask the question, why is this gentlemen, who has been working in the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine for the last 16 or 18 years, be retained in our service on this high salary of Rs. 800. I do not propose to develop this point any further now. I shall deal with it in detail when we come to the demands for grants. What I want to impress upon the Government is that the original idea when this Department was created seems to have been forgotten, or is now attempted to be forgotten and a separate Department, known as the Public Health Department, is now being developed. Now, after the investigations that are being carried on by so many of these men, the curative and preventive works have, of course, to be carried out by the Sanitary Department in co-ordination with the Medical Department. It was the original idea that these three Departments should be amalgamated so that the work done may be beneficial to the people. But instead of the three Departments being co-ordinated, we find that the Public Health Department is going to become a separate Department by itself.

PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I wish to preface my observations on the budget by congratulating the Government on the two announcements made by them after this session has commenced. The announcement agreeing to collect the jenmies' dues is bound to help the solution of a very serious problem that has been agitating the country for the last so many years. The learned Deputy President has already congratulated the Government on the other announcement staying the coercive processes in regard to

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the arrears of land revenue of 1107. I only wish to state that I fully agree with him in congratulating the Government on that.

Before coming to the budget proper, I wish to draw the attention of the Treasury Bench to an important matter. Sir, the general discussion on the Budget has not been having much effect in the framing of the Budget. The recent Press Communique issued by the Government leads us to hope that in the near future we would have some constitutional reforms and it is my firm belief that the next Budget will be presented by the Financial Secretary to a House to which he would be responsible. It would be better if the Financial Secretary would remember this fact and try to act according to *our* direction so that he may be ready to do that next year, as otherwise it may even cost his seat.

Sir, the Financial Secretary has introduced the budget with a surplus of Rs. 1·15 lakhs. I am unable to agree with the previous speakers in congratulating him. The aim of the Financial Secretary in this State appears always to be to balance the budget and to make provision for a small surplus without caring to see whether the estimates have any relationship with the actuals when the year passes out. Excluding 1105, I could see that for the last so many years, the variation between the actuals and the estimates have been not less than Rs. 10 or 12 lakhs. Sir, anyhow this will have one effect. We have produced a surplus budget when all the other Governments are confronted with economic disaster and are facing huge deficits. A reading of the preliminary edition of our Budget is likely to mislead persons outside the State to come to the conclusion that Travancore is a State still flowing with milk and honey. Sir, in this year's budget, we find two or three new items of income. One is with regard to the share which Travancore is to obtain from the Cochin Harbour Scheme. I congratulate the Government upon getting this share from the Cochin Harbour Scheme. But I think that, if during the period ending March 1932, we are to get about Rs. 10 lakhs during the period ending 1933, it will be 11 to 13 lakhs of rupees. Another new item is what we have obtained owing to the enhancement of the duty on petrol. In the preliminary budget it is stated that the income is 2·77 lakhs while in the Financial Secretary's speech it is stated to be 2·27 lakhs. I do not know which is correct.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Bh. Rs. 2·70 lakhs.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Whatever that be, it is for a period of 18 months.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): It is for two years.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): The Financial Secretary said that it was received for the period ending the 1st September 1930. The additional duty was imposed from the 1st April 1929. If the Financial Secretary refers to the budget speech of the Finance Member of the Government of India in the Legislative Assembly in 1929, he would find that it is for a period of 18 months, and we could expect to get Rs. 1 or Rs. 1½ lakhs even if there is no increase in

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the quantity of petrol imported. Sir, a reference to the *Statistics* will show that the quantity of petrol imported into Travancore in 1106 was about 3·5 million gallons and that the additional duty imposed is 2 annas per gallon. If we are to get our due share we must get four lakhs. I do not know why we should accept a smaller amount and suffer this loss. Anyhow, I hope the Government will bear this in mind and try to realise our due share. Sir, with these two items of income, of course, our Government would be able to present, apparently a balanced budget.

But, has such wind fall in any way directly benefited the tax-payer in this land; and is the public of this State to be congratulated on the new item that has accrued to the Government? The question of abolition of export duty was pressed upon the Government from many years back, and one of the excuses put forward was that it is one of the bigger items of our revenue. Now, the Cochin Harbour Scheme brings in Rs. 10 lakhs. It may be even Rs. 15 lakhs. Why not we now consider the question of abolition of export duty? Why should we tax the poor Travancore ryots by means of export duties? When we are imposing export duties on products on which we have no monopoly, are we not taxing the Travancore citizens? When our Government are realising a share from the petrol duty, and according to my calculation we are entitled to get more than four lakhs of rupees per annum. I seriously ask, why not consider the question of the abolition of tolls? Is not this amount obtained for the improvement of roads? Is not this additional duty levied by the Government of India for the improvement of roads? Is it not high time for the Government of Travancore to consider the question of the abolition of tolls? If the Government had abolished the export duty or at least reduced it and also abolished the tolls, I would certainly congratulate the Travancore citizen for the new items of income that the Government have received. But what is it that we see? There is a slight increase in the tariff value on tobacco. Some new tolls have been introduced and new taxes too. The learned Deputy President says that no new tax has been imposed. But I say that new taxes have been imposed. The introduction of tolls at so many new stations is certainly a new tax. The enhancement of the price of Anchal cards and covers, and the increase in the registration fees are new taxes though they are all small matters which may not affect the pockets of the rich.

Sir, about two crores of rupees is the revenue that has to be realised from the Travancore ryots. This budget is only a declaration on the part of the Government that they have decided in 1108 to realise two crores of rupees from the people, which means that the ryot, per head, has to pay Rs. 4 per annum. What are his means? If we are to rely on the figures given in the *Statistics* the population of the State is more than 5 millions and the area under cultivation of the chief crops is only 1·8 5 million acres. That means that each man

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in Travancore has only 36 cents of land. And the Banking Enquiry Committee Report says that each man in Travancore is indebted to the extent of Rs. 68. It is from the yield that he has to pay a portion of the capital, meet his daily expenses, pay interest for his debt and also Rs. 4 to the Government as tax. Sir, did the Financial Secretary consider these aspects of the question while framing the budget for this year? The Financial Secretary should, first of all, consider the capacity of the person who has to pay the tax, before imposing a tax upon him.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Will the yield from the land be sufficient only to meet the tax imposed by the Government?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): The Law Member's only point is that every officer of the Government must get his pay. The Law Member will say that his pay should be increased and that he should be given an allowance for maintaining a vehicle. It is the produce of the land that is the main source of income. It is the money derived from land that has to go to the pockets of the lawyers, the Government servants and the pensioners. Ninety per cent. of the income of the Travancore Government is derived from the produce of the land; and such income from land has now gone down considerably. If the ryot was unable to meet his daily expenses when the price of the staple products of the land was double of what it is now, is it justifiable on the part of the Government to realise Rs. 4 per head when the Travancore ryot is plunged into debts and is unable to make a living? Sir, if you refer to the Administration Report of the Police Department Part II, page 11, you will find that this year is marked by general depression both in trade and in industry. This is what is stated there:—

> "The year was marked by a general depression both in industry and trade coupled with severe floods. Though the price of food-stuffs fell considerably and came almost to the level of the pre-war days, there was no fall in crime but on the other hand there was a slight increase. World-wide depression and financial stringency contributed to considerable unemployment in the State. There is a great temptation among the unemployed to commit theft in order to live and the increase in crime was mainly under this head. Theft of food-stuffs and other necessaries of life were not common in the past and increase in this type of crime is due to real poverty and difficulty in obtaining food."

And what does the Police Commissioner say? He wants 100 constables more. Is this the remedy? When he admits that there is real depression, that there is poverty all round, he wants additional policemen. Will the poor tax-payer be taxed for that also? Similarly, if we refer to to the Administration Report of the Education Department, we find the same thing. Though the Director is not inclined to believe a report made by one of his own Assistant Inspectors, I am prepared to believe *his* Administration Report. This is what is stated in page 59 of his Report:

> "The increasing number of under-fed children with neither proper clothing, nor books, nor slates, attending some of the Vernacular Schools in rural areas is a

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problem calling for early solution in the interest of the educational advancement of the country.' So writes one of the Assistant Inspectors in his Report. The picture is not certainly overdrawn....."

I say that the Financial Secretary has not made any provision to meet this situation. Sir, we thought that the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee.....

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): May I know the concrete suggestions of the member?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I will suggest provided the member is prepared to accept them. Otherwise, why should I unnecessarily take up the time of the House?

The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee says that so many estates have been closed, that so many persons have been disbanded and that they are flooding the country and increasing the number of the unemployed. Is any provision made for them? It is no consolation to me to be told that there is the Water Works, and the Electric Scheme. At the most two or three thousand people could secure employment under these schemes. Is it really going to diminish the number of unemployed in the country? Has the Financial Secretary made any provision for irrigation works or for road development? The Minor Irrigation Committee, after spending a lot of money, has submitted a report, a very modest report, saying that the Government should spend at least 5 lakhs of rupees per annum for irrigation. Could this not be done? Would that not give work to the poor? Perhaps, the Financial Secretary will plead want of funds. Has retrenchment been effected sufficiently? Have the Government acted at least according to the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee to reduce salaries? Perhaps, the Financial Secretary may say, that the reduction under this item comes only to Rs. 2·5 lakhs. For the poor ryot, it is a sufficiently big sum; and that could have been devoted for irrigation purposes. That has not been done. When I speak of retrenchment, Sir, a story I have read comes to my memory. A family consisting of an officer, his wife, his daughter, a son and a servant decided upon retrenchment. They held a council. The officer said that his coach and pair were absolutely necessary for him to reach the office in time and with sufficient dignity. The wife said that her allowances should not be curtailed as she must make ornaments for her children and herself. The son said that his horse could not be disposed of as he had to ride, which exercise he considered to be absolutely necessary for the maintenance of his health. The daughter said that her allowances should not be curtailed as she had to make ornaments so that she might get a suitable husband. The family council considered for some length the problem of effecting retrenchment. They decided that the servant could not, of course, be disbanded. Finally, they decided that instead of giving the servant fish they would give him dhal. Retrenchment was thus effected in the family. Is it not like this, I ask, Sir, that the Government of Travancore have effected retrenchment? They have reduced a few of the Sub-Registry Offices

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which were self-supporting. They have disbanded so many poor people in the subordinate offices. On the contrary, the scales of pay of higher officers have been revised. The Financial Secretary pleads want of funds. Why not make a cut in salaries, I ask? Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to this important question. I do not say that the Government are unaware of the very serious problems that are confronting the State. From this year's *Statistics* it is seen that, out of 50 lakhs of people in the State the Census Commissioner has included about 26 lakhs under the category of unemployed dependents. That shows the volume of unemployment in the State. The Travancore Government have been all through appointing committees and getting their reports. We find that Travancore, which was exporting paddy some years back, is now importing it. In 1104, the value of the paddy imported amounted to 4 crores of rupees. What is it that the Government have done to increase the output of paddy? The Swampy Areas Committees submitted their reports to the Government; and I do not think that the Government acted according to their recommendations, There is the report of the Minor Irrigation Committee; and if their recommendations are accepted and acted upon by the Government, more intensive cultivation of paddy could have been possible.

MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Commerce and Industry, North*): റായൽടി കമ്മിറ്റിയെപ്പറ്റി മെമ്പർ എന്തുപറയുന്നു?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): അതിവിടെ പറയേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. ഇതിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുമില്ല.

There is the report of the Banking Enquiry Committee; and they have made a number of recommendations. And now, I think the Government are proposing to appoint another committee to consider the report of the Banking Enquiry Committee in British India. Is that sufficient, Sir? When I mention these facts, I should not be understood as ignoring the appointment of a Trade Agent in London or the opening of a Land Mortgage Bank. The Land Mortgage Bank, I say, has not been constituted properly and it is not functioning efficiently. The number of questions asked on the floor of this House on the Land Mortgage Bank will bear ample testimony to this fact. How far the Trade Agent in London is going to improve our economic condition I can say only after examining his work for some time. Much depends on the person chosen because he is an officer appointed to do duty thousands of miles away, and unless he is a man who takes a keen interest in the welfare of Travancore and is prepared to work wholeheartedly, that appointment also is bound to result in a failure. Sir, I hope that at least next year the Financial Secretary will produce a budget which will meet the real needs of the people.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): Despite the many arguments of the Financial Secretary for a surplus budget of 1.15 lakhs of rupees, I am constrained to state that there has been lack of resourcefulness on his part in tiding over the blighting

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blast of economic distress. He has suggested a good deal of measures pinning his faith on his own convictions of political economy. It is stated that the first impression is the best impression. If that be so, the financial integrity of the member is a mere cipher or zero, to use an expression from the local vernacular. Last year he waxed eloquent saying that he was going to have a surplus of ·54 lakh of rupees. But according to the revised estimate, there is a deficit of six lakhs. What about the actuals of 1107? That is to be seen. Now the actuals of 1106 show a big deficit of Rs. 12·23 lakhs as against the budgeted surplus of Rs 2·02 lakhs. Assuming economic prosperity or fall rises gradually or diminishes likewise, there will be a deficit of Rs. 12 lakhs *plus* or *minus* a few thousand rupees for 1107. For the same reason, there will be a deficit of a few lakhs of rupees (between eight and sixteen lakhs) in 1108 also. So the budget cannot be a surplus one. It is in fact a bankrupt budget, Sir, is this clarity of vision? Is this financial integrity? Optimism is good; it is a virtue. But when it is pushed too far beyond a reasonable extent, it becomes a sort of financial disease for which no diagnosis is possible. Even a veteran doctor like Dr. Raman Tampi will not be able to find out a remedy. Sir, there are only two ways of balancing a budget, *viz*, to increase the revenue or to decrease the expenditure. Increasing the revenue is out of the question. For the present when the position of the tax-payer in the land is deplorably bad, when it is very difficult for him to make both ends meet, further taxation whould be like killing the goose for golden eggs. The second point is the reduction of expenditure or retrenchment. I congratulate the Govornment for having appointed a committee of officials and non-officials to go into this question. But the terms of reference to the committee were not sufficiently wide. The Devaswom Department and certain others were not included in their terms of reference. Sir, in this age of revolutionary socialism and brisk national fermentation and necessity for the overhauling of red official bureaucracy, such terms as reserved subjects are merely a misnomer. It is a mirage. It is not possible for me to enumerate all the recommendations of the committee. Only it is possible to adumbrate the recommendations that may be accepted by the Government or that have been accepted by them. It is indeed a matter for serious complaint that the salary cut has not engaged the attention of the Government. The Financial Secretary says that it is still engaging the attention of the Government. Sir, the principle that the pay of an officer should be commensurate with his office is as old as Aristotle and it echoes to the present century. In Travancore we find that the pay of officers ranges between Rs. 3,000, the pay of the Dewan, and Rs. 8, the pay of a peon. Sir, Mahatma Gandhi, who has an insight into the economic condition of the people, who has an introspective vision of these matters has said that no officer in India should be paid over Rs. 500. I, in my dissenting note, have said that, in Travancore, excepting the pay of the Dewan and the High Court Judges, the pay of no officer should be above 720, and that the minimum must not be below Rs. 12. But the Government have not done anything in that direction; and in the budget also no mention of it is made.

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[Mr. K. Narayanaperumal Nadar.]

As regards personal scales of pay given to officers, there is absolutely no reason for it.

One word about travelling allowance. The fundamental principle is that it should not be a source of profit to any officer. But I am told by the Financial Secretary that in a certain month the travelling allowance of a particular Dewan Peishkar exceeded his pay. In Mysore, I hear that the Government have passed a G. O. that the travelling allowance of any officer should not exceed Rs. 200 a month. A similar G. O. ought to be passed here also. The sooner it is done the better. Officers who own pleasure cars think that the more they travel the better for them as they can make more money. It is not necessary for me to give specific examples now. I propose to address the House on this matter some time later.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Does the member propose restrictions also on the number of days that officers should be out?

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): I shall deal with the matter when I speak on the cut motions.

As regards the P. W. D. budget I want to say, that from the standpoint of the ryot, there should be no retrenchment at all in the allotment for public works. The Chief Engineer, Mr. Westerdale, said that his was the only positive department and that all the other departments were negative departments. Looking into the allotment for the Public Works Department, we find a gradual fall, and the Government seem to ignore it. Is it because people are not able to organise themselves? Whatever that might be, there should not be any retrenchment in the P. W. D. budget. The P. W. D. are surrendering grants every year. The Chief Engineer asks his officers to surrender a portion of the grants. That is a problem about which, I hope to address this House on some other occasion. Then, in regard to the step-motherly treatment of the Nagercoil P. W. Division, that is also another problem about which I hope to address the House on another occasion.

About the Education Department, whether the State is justified in spending 46 lakhs of rupees on literary education every year is a moot problem. The Government have appointed a committee to enquire into the matter. What is the necessity for the opening of special schools for certain communities alone? That is anti-medieval, if not anti-deluvian. There is absolutely no justification, in these days when caste system is disappearing, for running these schools. Then there is the cherished folly of the Government in converting departmental schools into non-departmental ones. At page 88 of the Administration Report of the Education Department, it is stated as follows:—

> "It is for example, the declared policy of the Government to hand over the Government schools to private agencies wherever suitable ones can be found. Applications to take over the Government schools by properly qualified people are occasionally made to the department, but in no single case since I took charge of the department has it been possible to transfer a school owing to the fact that there are many communities in the locality who invariably object to the abolition of

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a Government school unless they themselves are to have the management of the aided institution that will replace it."

Sir, this has been the cherished policy of the Government for the last 15 or 20 years ; but the present Director of Public Instruction has not been able to do anything in the matter. But if he were an Indian Director it would have been otherwise. That does not mean that there is any justification for a European Director following this policy. I hope European officers will rise above communal policies and do the needful. I therefore take it that, for 1108, at least ten per cent. of the departmental schools would be converted into non-departmental ones, for, as it is, there is a serious drain on the general tax-payer.

A word about the Public Health Survey investigations. There is immediate necessity for having a Public Health Department. It is indeed a matter of great pleasure that the Rockefeller Foundation has been pleased to send Dr. Jacocks here to go into the question. But whether the scheme is justifiable or whether any good can accrue out of it is a question upon which I cannot say much, for I am not a doctor. I leave it to Dr. Chalayil Panikkar, Dr. Madhavan Pillai and other members who know medicine. But I can say one word about that. In England, or in the United States, these schemes are worked only in very wealthy cities. It is worked in New York which is a wealthy city. It appears that the Travancore State is to be split into six units for the purpose of working the scheme and that for each unit Rs. 50,000 is to be allotted. The total allotment will come to three lakhs of rupees. The Travancorean now finds it very difficult to keep his body and soul together. Therefore, the intoduction of these costly schemes is not desirable in times of such economic depression as we are now having. The Travancorean is not now able to live a wealthy life ; he lives the life of a Robinson Crusoe.

Travancore is not self-sufficient. It is more than two decades since the Agricultural Department was inaugurated, and we find that the Department has not solved this problem to any extent. The question now is whether we should abolish the Department or work it on proper lines. As Hamlet said "To be or not to be, that is the question." In this hall, there may be many who believe that Hanuman, the son of Vayu, jumped across the ocean to fulfil a great mission. I do not know whether there is anybody to believe that. Perhaps to believe the truth of that statement is the untruth of it.

There is one thing more. I want two minutes more, Sir. I find in the Municipal Regulation that the Municipality should do street lighting. In the case of Trivandrum, the Government have undertaken it. There is absolutely no justification for it. Where is the necessity for a differential treatment of the Trivandrum Municipality alone? In answer to my question, I find that lighting has cost in 1106 Rs. 36,000 for Trivandrum. For the first half of 1107, it is Rs. 9,000. The budget allotment as revised is Rs. 36,000. I protest against the policy of Government in spending these large sums of money for street ligh ing in Trivandrum.

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[Mr. K. Narayanaperumal Nadar.]

Then, one word about the constitution of this Council. It appears that under the Standing Orders I am not allowed to discuss about the constitution. The powers given to the non-officials are very limited. Non-official ministries should be formed. The official members exercise more powers now than the non-officials. The earlier this sham Council, which gives no powers to non-officials, is dissolved by an announcement by His Highness the Maha Raja or His Majesty the King Emperor, the better. With these words, I resume my seat.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Sir, as against all criticisms levelled against the policy followed by the Financial Secretary for the preparation of the coming year's budget, I for one am really glad to be able to congratulate the Financial Secretary for some forward steps taken by the Government in framing this budget. Here the Government seem to have made some earnest attempts, very inadequate no doubt, just to give an impetus to the growth of indigenous industries by the proposed programme of opening a sales depot for the display of local handicrafts and cottage industries. I can assure you, Sir, that we, on this side of the House, will not grudge voting for much larger sums in future towards this most necessary item of expenditure. But I have to limit my congratulation within certain restrictions.

The extensions to the Trivandrum Guest House have cost the Travancore Government the paltry sum of Rs. 36,000 and its repair Rs. 8,000. The construction of the quarters of that great officer, whom we of the plains have never seen and seldom heard of, has cost us Rs. 34,000. But for supplying, in the words of the Financial Secretary, proper facilities for marketing our articles, by opening sales depots (which of course involves the incidental expenditure on contingencies, salaries and furniture) and for the promotion of cottage industres in Travancore, a magnificent and most generous provision of Rs. 17,000 has been made by the Travancore Government. The moral speaks for itself and I do not want to say anything more. While we are on the programme of industrial regeneration of the country, I cannot but thank Mr. I. C. Chacko for the very candid statement he has made in his report on the administration of the department for 1106. In this report he reviews the operations of the department, from its inception to the year 1100, and concludes with the observation that it was possible for the department to do nothing till 1100; and about the achievements of the department since 1100 he says that nothing was achieved since 1100. Briefly, nothing was done by the department before 1100 and less after 1100. That is how the confession of the Head of the Department is recorded in a report which was subsequently submitted to the Government, who do not seem to have had anything to say on it.

But it may be too much and too early for me to expect the Financial Secretary to be so very candid; last year he gave us to understand that he expected a revenue of Rs. 232·19 lakhs. I told him,

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analysing his calculations, item by item, that I would not be surprised if he failed to secure even Rs. 219 lakhs. He asked me where I got those figures from. Now, I see him confessing that he has not been able to secure even Rs. 215 lakhs. Now I ask him who is more correct —myself or he--who is expected to be more discreet and wiser in regard to calculations like this? For the year 1108 also, I can clearly see that he commits the very same mistake. Here, he is farther away from actuality than ever. Because, in the Excise Department he expects a fall of Rs. 53,000 as against a fall we have already sustained, during the year, to the tune of two lakhs. In the Land Revenue Department, he can conceive only of a fall of Rs. 56,000 as against a fall of Rs. 1·04 lakhs during the year. In regard to the Forest Department, he expects an increase of Rs. 25,000 as against a fall of Rs. 3·07 lakhs during 1107. Under Registration he expects an increase of Rs. 9,000 as against a fall of Rs. one lakh. Under Administration of Justice he says he expects a substantial increase as against a fall of Rs. 26,000. That is the way in which he has framed his budget, and that is the budget which has been termed by the learned Deputy President as a surplus budget and which has been congratulated by him on a comparative study of the British Indian Provinces. So, really, it is not only not a surplus budget but it is really a terribly deficit budget when the actualities are realised.

I may tell you, Sir, that I do not feel myself enamoured of the proposed programme of encouragement sought to be given to the co-operative movement in the State. Here, the Financial Secretary tells us that the Government propose to get down from outside Travancore a distinguished worker in the field of co-operation on a pay of Rs. 250 per mensem. I do not know what will be the stuff we will be getting for this very low salary. But I am not at all for getting down anybody here, during the time when the economic depression prevails, on any high pay. I can assure the Government that it will be a terrible failure if they pursue the present policy of encouraging co-operation in the State.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): What is the authority for the statement that the pay of that officer is Rs. 250?

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): That is given in the Budget, and I shall not waste my time in teaching the member about it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Should there not be a committee to enquire into the working of the department?

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): A committee is necessary. Sir, the nature of the co-operative movement is such that it is always better to go in for local people who are thoroughly conversant with local conditions and who have experience of co-operation. They will be in a position to judge for themselves

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[Mr. E. V. Krishna Pillai.]

the methods and lines which will contribute to the prosperity of the country. The Financial Secretary has placed two programmes which are intended to throw dust into the eyes of the public. For industries he has made some inadequate provisions and for co-operation a provision so absurd as this.

There are many more things for me to enumerate to show the vital defects of administration. The Financial Secretary has invited concrete suggetions from the members on this side of the House. When Mr. Asan asked the Financial Secretary whether he was prepared to accept those suggestions, the Financial Secretary said that he was not in a position to accept them. I am also equally glad to enumerate, item after item, purely from the recommendations submitted by the several committees appointed by the Government. All those recommendations of the committees were passed over by the Government; items which, if only cleverly handled and properly considered by the Government, would have been of considerable use to the people at large. For instance, there are the reports of the Minor Irrigation Committee, the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee, the Banking Enquiry Committee and the Unemployment Committee. The reports of these committees are very good and excellent in their own way, and they contain very useful recommendations for the future guidance of the Government. But, what have the Government done? They have not taken into consideration even the important recommendations of these committees which have been very very modest in their proposals. It has been the steady policy of the Government, a policy which began from the days of Mr. Raghaviah, that whenever a problem presents itself to them for urgent and prompt action, just to appoint a committee, shove the whole responsibility to that committee, wash their hands clean, and then, when the committee submits its report, shelve it for ever. That is how things are being done by the Government. I know it from personal experience, and I am only sorry to have to tell the House of a piece of personal experience. I wanted a copy of the report of the Banking Enquiry Committee because many portions appearing in that report are being copied down in the reports of some other committees. I thought it would be good for me to refer to the Banking Enquiry Committee Report. It is two months since I wrote to the Chief Secretary to the Government for supplying me with a copy, not free but on terms which he would fix. I have not yet been given even a reply to my letter. The copy I have with me now, I borrowed from the Financial Secretary and I do not know when he will want it back. That is how the Chief Secretary proves his sense of responsibility. I also come to understand that there is a subsequent volume to the Banking Enquiry Committe Report, and I do not know what it contains. For the Minor Irrigation Committee Report also, it seems, there is a companion volume. We are not even supplied with the reports of the various committees. That is the way, I submit, how the Government officials are treating the requests of the non-official members even of this Council. In regard to a matter,

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which is vitally affecting the interests of the country at large, I am really unable to understand the attitude of the Government. I further understand that the Chairman of the Banking Enquiry Committee had requested the Government to get the Report of the Committee translated into the different vernaculars and the translations be sold at 8 annas per copy for the benefit of the poor ryots. By getting a report like that, public can know where they stand. I do not know whether this request was given any weight by the Government. I doubt very much whether there will be half a dozen Government officials with any tinge of patriotism to consider this as necessary for the well-being of the people. That is how they carry on the Government now.

To return to the concrete proposals, which the Financial Secretary has invited us to make, I will briefly enumerate certain points. As I submitted at the outset, they are not my own ideas, but proposals appearing in the reports of the various committees. It has been found that the existing land colonisation scheme does not serve properly the educated section of the public and in its place a new type of colonisation has been suggested. I do not know whether that is being considered by the Government or whether the rules regarding it have been published. It is highly irresponsible on the part of the Government to keep in abeyance such valuable recommedations of the several committees. With a view to reduce unemployment and also to render the educational system more useful, the suggestions for the organisation of an employment bureau, abolition of Pleadership Classes, the starting of agricultural pial schools in rural areas, the introduction of village panchayats, the amalgamation of the vernacular and English schools, wherever possible, the provision of workshops attached to all schools, the introduction of competitive examinations, and several other suggestions have been made. Nothing has been done in any of these matters. For the purpose of mobilising the resources and the energies of the Development Departments it has been suggested and it is a very useful suggestion that a Standing Committee on Development, with the Dewan as its President, may be created. Nothing has been done in that matter. It was found by a certain committee, that the system of our taxation stood in need of considerable improvement and it was suggested by them that the whole system might be carefully scrutinised in the light of the Report of the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee. Nothing has been done till now. Then a thorough enquiry into the condition of the agricultural population of the country, on the lines suggested by the Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India was recommended. Did it appeal to the Government? I do not think it did. Then, the desirability of transferring to the Agricultural Department the powers of distributing loans to the ryots was another recommendation made. It was a definite recommendation. Nothing has been done in that direction. Then reduction of the interest on Government loans was another very important recommendation. Nothing has been done by the Government till now on that either. Rural recorganisation and rural reconstruction, through the

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agency of the vernacular school teachers and through co-operative societies were suggested by a committee; and I am sorry to observe here also the Government have not done anything at all. For the purpose of facilitating the easy supply of manure, the introduction of forest panchayats was suggested. That would have been very useful to the ryots. Nothing has been done by the Government till now. The imposition of penalty upon non-cultivated areas and the strengthening of the finances of co-operative societies for the purposes of distribution of loans among the rural people, were good suggestions put forward for the attention of the Government. They were not accepted by the Government. I will be able to give a thousand and one such instances to satisfy the Financial Secretary's curiosity, provided I have sufficient time for that. The Financial Secretary need not be under the impression that it is because there is no concrete suggestion put forward by the members of the House that the Government are keeping quiet. In this connection, I may quote Mr. I. C. Chacko. I thought the slow progress, or rather the non-progress, made by the Industries Department was due to the fault of the people. But Mr. Chacko tells me otherwise. He himself states that he was worried with letters from various people and that he was unable to reply to one and all of the enquiries made therein. That is how the public have been demanding the officers of the Government to co-operate with them. "Well, Sir, we are unemployed, we want your suggestion"; that has been the popular slogan. The Financial Secretary need not be under the impression that the Travancore public are absolutely devoid of any concrete suggestions.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I wanted suggestions in regard to the reduction in expenditure.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Is that all? But these are very important suggestions as they contribute towards the general prosperity of the people, which I thought, and think still, would satisfy the Financial Secretary.

At page 100 of the report of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee there is a statement which reads thus:

> "The happiness, contentment, and prosperity of a country like ours depend upon the happiness, contentment and prosperity of the agriculturists."

Sir, it is a very weighty statement; and we all know that it implies much. I will conclude my discussion with pointing out an illustration from the Budgets from 1094 up to 1107, just to show how far the Government were alive to the minor irrigation; because, it is minor irrigation that above all goes to contribute to the success of the agricultural population. The Minor Irrigation Committee has given the Government a very useful suggestion. They have given a programme of works, extending over seven years, with an annual allotment of Rs. 5 lakhs, so that the minor irrigation works throughout the State may be attended to within that period. But have the Government taken note

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of that? In the year 1094, out of a revenue of Rs. 181 lakhs, the Government spent for minor irrigation Rs. 34,692 Inthe year 1098, out of Rs. 194 lakhs, Rs. 50,000 was the expenditure for that. In the year 1100, out of a total of Rs. 209 lakhs, Rs. 65,600 was the expenditure. In 1101, out of Rs. 239 lakhs the expenditure was Rs. 74,105. For 1107, out of Rs. 223 lakhs Rs. 48,310 was the amount set apart for improving minor irrigation works. For the coming year, out of Rs. 223 lakhs the provision made for protective irrigation is Rs. 34,640. That is the way in which the recommendations of the committees are accepted by the Government, in a very vital matter.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Karthikapalli*) : May I know from the member whether protective irrigation works are not urgent works?

PRESIDENT : Your time is up.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): I would conclude with the observation that the Government are criminally negligent in regard to the discharging of duties which will contribute to the general prosperity of the country.

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*): I am one with the learned Deputy President when he said that the Financial Secretary has to be congratulated. But, the question arises, wherein lies the necessity for congratulation? It is there that I differ from the learned Deputy President. I think the Financial Secretary ought to be congratulated on the frankness with which he has confessed that, in spite of his careful calculations of the revenue and expenditure for 1107, all his expectations have played him false and the small surplus of Rs. 54,000 which he had managed to manipulate by means of a jugglery in figures had escaped him. Further, he ought to be congratulated on the optimistic spirit with which he views things. In spite of the reverses of last year, he has again come out with a surplus budget of a lakh and fifteen thousand. I say, that this optimistic spirit may call for congratulation ; but it should not lull us into a false sense of security. It should not make us believe that all is well with us in Travancore unlike any other part of the world. Now, the first thing that strikes any one who glances over the Budget for 1108 is the proposed scheme for retrenchment. The Financial Secretary has stated in his speech that as soon as proposals for retrenchment reached the Government, they knew that the reduction effected was not sufficient to meet the demands of the times and so a committee of officials and non-officials was constituted to go into the question and to make specific recommendations for reducing expenditure, with due regard to the needs of efficient administration. Now, if any one glances over the proposals made by that committee and the action taken by Government on the recommendations, he would be able to see the selfishness of the official side underlying the whole scheme. I wish to refer to one of those recommendations. I mean the last of the lot, namely, temporary reduction in the salaries of all the Government servants whose salary or leave allowance is not less than Rs. 40

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per mensem. Anybody who glances over these pages would see that the greatest saving in expenditure would be effected by this cut, leaving alone the reduction in establishment charges. The cut under this item comes to Rs. 2 50,000. It is significant that the Financial Secretary has shoved it on to the end in the list of proposals from (*a*) to (*h*). I think, if left to the officials, they would shove it on eternally to the end. What I say is, that it is insulting, if I may put it so, to the members of the Retrenchment Committee to deal with their proposals in this haphazard fashion, without giving them due consideration.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Is not the member aware that the Financial Secretary is also a member of the Committee?

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*): Yes, I am aware of that. But the Financial Secretary may care more for his pay than for his position as a member of the Committee. That is perhaps the reason for his not giving effect to the cut proposed by the Committee.. This piecemeal adaptations of the recommendations and this shoving on for ever of the most effective of the recommendations, is quite ineffective ; and it would be a gross injustice done to the Committee by the Government if their recommendations are viewed in this manner. To take just one instance, the Committee recommended temporary reduction in the salaries together with reduction in the allotment under travelling allowances and contingencies. As it is, the Government have readily adopted the latter suggestion ; and the Financial Secretary has disposed of in one word the suggestion regarding the salaries cut. He has stated "The proposal is engaging the attention of the Government." With regard to each of the proposals, (*a*) to (*g*), the Financial Secretary has a paragraph to write about. But in regard to (*h*), he thought "the less said the better." He has finished it off in one sentence. What is the use in reducing allotments under travelling allowances, particularly of poorly paid officers? For instance, in the case of the Excise Inspectors and the Police Inspectors of the 3rd Grade, officers who get Rs. 60+Rs. 20 as fixed T. A., the T. A. has been reduced. The reduction in their T. A. effects a four rupee cut whereas the high officials who are getting Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000 have not a single cash to lose. If at all a reduction is to be made it should be done in a just manner, and not so as to affect the low paid officials alone.

Another question that I have to ask the Financial Secretary is, where is the efficacy in saying that this proposal is engaging the attention of the Government? The Government should understand that these are extremely hard times; the needs are urgent and the remedies are urgently to be provided for. It is only a temporary reduction that is proposed; since the economic depression is also going to be only temporary it is perhaps a trick played by the official benches

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to see that these deliberations may out-reach the necessity. The tendency of the time shows that the Government is lacking in sagacity. The economic distress must be met somehow or other for which the salary cut alone is a substantial remedy. Why should not the official benches do now with a grace what at a later stage they will be compelled to do ? It is not because that the Government are not aware of the economic distress of the times. The point is that their thoughts travel entirely in a different direction. I would refer to one or two proposals made by the official members of the Retrenchment Committee, namely, the levying of fees on primary education, or, in the alternative, the imposition of an education cess on the people of the State. Of course, that proposal has been dropped, thanks to the non-official members of the Committee. But it shows clearly the tendency of the official members of the Committee. If I remember correct, there was a proposal to abolish, at least temporarily, the Training College. What the Government had to say against that was that it would affect the prestige of the Travancore Government. It is certainly not wrong on the part of the officers of the Government to have that attitude. But the same officers suggest the levy of a fee on primary education. Look at that mentality. I am unable to reconcile the above two statements.

Then, I wish to refer to the retrenchment proposals that have been given effect to by the Government.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*) : What is the member's opinion in regard to the enhancement of fees for girl students ?

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*): I am coming to that. The Financial Secretary has stated that the concession enjoyed by lady students, in colleges in the matter of fees has been withdrawn and that the fees for girls in English and vernacular schools have been raised from one-half to three-fourths of the fees paid by boys. That is expected to bring in an increased revenue of Rs. 35,000. That policy on the part of the Government deserves the severest criticism from every one of the members on this side of the House. At a time when the women of the land are just coming up, when they are evincing an interest in higher education, if this policy is adopted it would check their wholesome desire and nip it in the bud. I do not understand the policy or the object of the Government and of their officers underlying this change. I do not know whether it is meant as a check to our clamour for entry into all the departments of the public service. I do not know whether it is intended as a check to the equality with men which we claim. I do not know whether it is the proved method adopted by the officers of the Government to kill our attempt to compete with men in all walks of life. Whatever be their motive, it is surely far from laudable. That is what I think about it. It does not surely become an enlightened Government, like that of Travancore, to say that they could not find any other method of rising this comparatively small amount of Rs. 35,000 than by taking away the small concession given

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to the women of the land. This is certainly not the proper attitude on the part of the men of the land who repeatedly assure us that they really want to take the women along with them in all social and political activities. It does not seem to be the proper step for our Government, which says 'We want to keep up our prestige.'

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I ask the member whether this does not show that the men want to treat women with equality?

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*): I do not understand the member.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): My point is whether the withdrawal of the concession, hitherto enjoyed by women, does not show that men expect women also to take up the burden of the State, equally with men, and thus recognise the principle of equality with men which women are clamouring for. (*Hear, hear.*)

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*): May I assure the member that I do not feel flattered by that attitude. It is to be able to clamour for equality with equal strength that we require the concession *in the beginning*. First, give us equal status so that we may be able to feel the equality.

PRESIDENT: There is the Chair; please address the Chair.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Is it the men or women in the country that are going to meet the additional expenditure on account of the enhancement of the fees of girls?

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*): Sir, the sum of thirty-five thousand rupees, now sought to be raised by the enhancement of the fees paid by women students, could very well be realised by reduction in the salary of women officers.

MR A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): My question is whether it is the men or the women in the country that have to bear the additional burden on account of the enhanced fees of girl students.

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*): Both have to do it.

In the name of the women of the land, I earnestly request the Government that this novel method of increasing the revenue of the State in this time of economic depression be discarded. I request the Government not to dispose of the matter by saying that they will consider the question. If they find any necessity for such consideration or deliberation, I request them to extend the concession, hitherto enjoyed by women, at least to the women students of the backward communities, leaving the case of the rest alone for deliberation. I hope that the Government will do at least that without any delay.

A word, Sir, about the Medical Department. I see that, in the Budget for 1108, a sum of Rs. 4,450 has been provided for an additional maternity ward for the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum. So far so good. But the Government should not be under the delusion that on account of this small provision the needs of all the women of Travancore in this matter have been met. We have been again and again

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urging,in this Council and in the Assembly, the urgent necessity for starting maternity wards under qualified lady doctors in all the important hospitals in the State. It is well known that these maternity wards are intended to give aid to women at the time of pregnancy and confinement, and that women really stand in need of help during pregnancy and confinement. It will be admitted that it is practically impossible for women from all parts of the State, from the northernmost corner for instance, to run up to Trivandrum for confinement. There is absolutely no good in spending any amount of money on health propaganda, or complaining of the want of education of women in the land, or weeping over the infant mortality in the State, unless you provide the necessary medical aid for them wherever necessary. As it is, there are only 19 lady doctors in the whole State of which 11 are attached to the Women and Children's Hospitals at Quilon and at Trivandrum. The remaining 8 alone are distributed throughout the rest of the State. This is not at all equal to the needs felt by the women of the land. My request is that, by and by, attempt should be made to start new maternity wards, under qualified lady doctors, at least in all the important hospitals of the State, one after another. If the Government find any difficulty (financial or otherwise) in recruiting the required number of lady doctors all at once, I would suggest that, as new vacancies arise in the Medical Department, lady doctors may be appointed one after another in as many of them as possible, so that by suitable redistribution and adjustment, by transferring a male doctor from places where there are two or more male doctors and by posting a lady doctor in his place, in course of time, practically all parts of the State would have qualified lady doctors near at hand. In that way, without much additional expenditure, the problem may be met.

A word about women and the public service. Since we met this time last year, I find that some attempts have been made to appoint more and more women in the public service of the State; and I hope that, with the appointment of a lady member in the Public Service Committee all the disqualifications attached to women would practically disappear and we would be given equal chances with men where we are equally qualified and equally efficient.

A word about the Ayurveda Department. That is a Department where no one can question the claims of women in the matter of appointments. Just like the Medical Department, the Ayurveda Department also should entertain women freely. It is well known that there is an examination conducted by that Department called the *Vaidyakalanidhi* Examination. That is considered to be a high enough qualification for appointment in that Department. I know that, as a matter of fact, women who have passed that examination have been pushed aside on the ground of long waiting lists of acting hands. I can mention at least one specific instance. There is one Srimati Subhadra Amma who has passed that examination creditably as first in the first class. When she applied for a post in the Department she was refused one on the ground that she had no acting period to her credit. Now, Sir,

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that is unreasonable. Preference must certainly be given to qualified women. They must be given some encouragement. Some exceptions must be made in their favour for some time.

I would like to add one word about an anomaly in the Education Department. About three years back there was an order of the Government to the effect that only B. A. L. T.'s should be appointed as Assistant Inspectresses, and as Headmistresses in English Middle Schools. In spite of that order, the Assistant Inspectresses, somehow or other, have been managing to continue in their posts without their salaries or allowances being affected in any way, although they have not passed the L. T.Examination. The Headmistresses alone are the victims of this rule. Unfortunately for them,there are only three of them; and they have put in more than 15 years of service. They have now been sent back to some school or other so that they do not now get the allowance of Rs. 20 which they have been getting for the last 15 or 20 years. I understand that they represented their grievances to the Director of Public Instruction. It seems the Director told them 'We can only go by the rules; we cannot make any exception.' Sir, suppose one fine morning a notice is issued to the Director of Public Instruction that only if he qualifies himself in Italian, German and American languages he could continue as Director and that till he obtains such qualification he should revert and serve as Principal of one of the Colleges. Suddenly his pay of Rs. 1,200 will come down to Rs. 900. What will be the result of such a situation?

PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

MRS. ANNA CHANDI (*Nominated*): I have many more things to say; I shall take some other opportunity.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Briefly presented.....

PRESIDENT: Speak up, please, Mr. Karunakaran.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Briefly presented in a cold and comfortless speech, the Budget which the Financial Secretary introduced on Saturday last merits respect for its integrity and optimism; but, it leaves enthusiasm unstirred. I desire to associate myself with the Deputy President in congratulating the Financial Secretary, not for showing a surplus, but for departing from the old method of confining his speech to some dry facts and figures. This year he has really endeavoured to give us some idea of the lines along which the important departments of the State are expected to move during the next financial year.

Sir, I have no criticism to raise against the Financial Secretary's resolve to move slowly and cautiously, nor am I among those, who affect disappointment at the omission in the Budget of any permanent concessions to the tax-payer. What the country to-day wants is real, substantial guarantee and unqualified sympathy, help and co-operation from the Government to enable the country to tide over this period of acute depression affecting all spheres of economic activities of the State. It is

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here that the Financial Secretary failed to do justice to his task. He has adopted the static role of the routine book-keeper preoccupied seemingly with the task of balancing a difficult account when the country looked rather for assurance that the Government are fully alive to the dynamics of a situation, in which vast forces are influencing unprecedentedly both our country's earning power and our taxable capaity. The Financial Secretary has commanded the dis-spirited acquiescence of the House in the grim balance sheet of a crisis, the implications of which he has barely mentioned and to the solution of which he has promised little specific contribution. How severely the taxable capacity of the country has been hit by the depression is indicated by the drop, which the Financial Secretary has had to anticipate in the yield of taxes on income for the coming year. Here his estimate would appear to be reasonably cautious. But he has predicted an increase under Stamps. He hopes that the value of securities and other properties may recover or *will* recover next year. That is a matter, which we have to wait and see.

From the Budget, we find that the ratio between direct and indirect taxes has now been considerably altered to the detriment of the indirect tax-payer. Under Salt, Excise and Customs, we have the total figure of over a crore, while under Land Revenue and Taxes on Income it is only just over forty-five lakhs. This shows clearly the formidable aggregate tax burden confronting us. In short, the Financial Secretary elected to represent his budget in a form suggestive of a statement of accounts torn oddly from its context. He voiced no sense of real appreciation that, unless the agrarian and industrial and unemployment problem and trade crisis are relieved, the task of maintaining the balance of a budget on anything like the present scale must ultimately prove an impossibility, so that the Financial Secretary as also the Government must visualise the fact that the budgetary problem of every country to-day should be considered less in terms of figures than in terms of policy. I am glad to see, Sir, that, provided the estimates of revenue and expenditure are not seriously upset by events, I am sure the Budget for 1108 will be a real contribution towards the financial stability of our country.

Sir, about four years ago—I think it was in 1928—I brought to the attention of the Government the extreme necessity of putting all the development departments under one responsible officer of the State or under the Dewan.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are they not under the Dewan now?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): The actual working of the Departments are not under the Dewan now, at any rate for practical purposes.

PRESIDENT: Were you asking a question, Mr. Thanu Pillai?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Yes, Sir.

PRESIDENT: Will you please stand up when you have to say anything?

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MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): In about 1928, I suggested that a responsible officer should be made the head of all the development departments or that the Dewan should take a real, and practical interest in these departments and control their working. The report of the Royal Agricultural Commission has shown very vividly that unless that is done, it is impossible for these departments to develop on proper lines. All these departments have to work if the problems connected with any one of them are to be solved. For example, for the development of cottage industries, co-operative societies have to be organised among the people engaged in them; and such people are mostly agriculturists. It is here that real co-ordination of all these departments is absolutely essential. Therefore, unless the Government appoint a proper person, who would be able to co-ordinate the policy of all these departments, or unless the Dewan himself agrees to hold himself directly responsible for such co-ordination, I think our development departments will be moving along a course which would not prove to be much useful to the country or to its people.

In regard to the Industries Department, I am really glad to see that provision has been made, although it is small, for a sales depot. Sir, I do believe that for the development of our trade and industry what we want primarily to-day is advertisement, and sales depots have proved to be very important in this connection. I have seen the working of these depots in the United Provinces and they are very successful. Large amounts of money are being voted year after year for the development of these depots in the United Provinces. I expected the Government would give at least half the amount they get from the Cochin Harbour, say five lakhs, for the development of the development departments, that is Co-operative, Industries and Agricultural Departments. I do not know how the Director of Industries is going to put the show on the proper basis with the seventeen thousand rupees that has been budgeted, and out of which about Rs. 2,000 goes to the establishment. I hope the Government will consider this and will come in with a supplementary grant during the next session. A number of industries have been given here but I find that the most important and prospective industry with regard to kaolin has been left out altogether. Some three years ago, I think, my friend, Mr. Lampard, sent me a sample of some vessels made out of this kaolin. I found them to be very useful and good for our country. I had a talk also with the Director of Industries with regard to the development of this industry; but I do not know what induced him to give up this important cottage industry which, in my opinion, is more important than either embroidery or durrie and carpet-making.

Sir, the Medical Department has placed in my hands a small booklet regarding the Public Health Department. We, who come from the most unhealthy part of Travancore, have not got the advantages, which people in places like Neyyattinkara and the southern districts have. We only hope that the advantages accruing from this Department will be extended to us who are living in the most unhealthy place, Alleppey, from which we cannot get out.

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Sir, ever since I was connected with this Council, that is from 1928 onwards. the vexed question of tariff policy has been before this House. I have had occasion to take part in the discussion many a time and it is a pity to see that the Government have no fixed principle in regard to it. I can appreciate the difficulty of the agriculturists in having these tariff values put upon cocoanut, *copra* and other products. At the same time, I cannot forget the position of the mill-owners and industrialists who have spent many years and much money in their industries. Such an expert committee as the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee, after much discussion have arrived at the following conclusion:—

> "Nor do we feel competent to make any recommendations on tariff policy. This is a question to be investigated by an expert body like the Indian Tariff Board. We would recommend that Government take the necessary steps to have the whole question of tariff examined by a body of experts."

Sir, this time last year, owing to the quarrel over this question between the agricultural population and the mill-owners, I suggested to the Government that they should have a permanent tariff committee composed of officials and non-officials to advise the Government and the Excise Commmissioner. There, I clearly showed that it is impossible for the Excise Commissioner to study all questions connected with abkari, excise, salt and customs. A committee should therefore be appointed to help him ; and that body will be able to advise Government on tariff policy and tariff questions from time to time. I would also suggest that, if the financial position of Government admits, customs should be separated from abkari. The income from abkari is bound to go down in future and the Government have to depend for their income on the development of our trade and industry, which have got great influence on customs. Sir, I am not saying anything about any special officer of the State, but customs is an important and a wide question and it is impossible for a man, who is not trained in that line properly, to advise Government from time to time. This question about tariff value is pending before the Government and before the public for more than thirty-five years, and the Government have not yet adopted a decided policy with regard to it. Sometimes they say that they are going to favour the mill-owners and they increase the tariff value on *copra*. Sometimes they say they are going to favour the agricultural population and they bring down the tariff value on *copra*. This is very pitiable, and the men who are engaged in the industries are not able to know where they stand. What I want to know is whether the Government are going to pull down the mill-owners just to benefit the agricultural population. I quite understand that this House consists of the agricultural interests and that my cry will be in the wilderness. But I am sure that the official side has studied this problem very well and that it can appreciate the position of the mill-owners who have invested a lot of money on this industry during the last thirty-five years.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*) : May I know from the member how many mill-owners are there?

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MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : About fifteen. I want the Government to lay down a policy, even at the expense of the agricultural population. What I would like to know is whether the Government are going to sympathise with the mill-owners and the industrialists and whether they are going to help them. To support my position I can draw many instances from British India. I cannot understand why in British India the consumers of iron are being put to a premium on the iron imported from outside India. It is just to patronise and to develop the industries started by one man, Tata. If the Government lay down their policy, we will know where we stand and whether we ought to close down the mills on account of the abolition of the export duty on *copra* intended to help the agriculturists.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*) : Where will the mill-owners get the raw materials if the agriculturists are not supported ?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : You say you suffer much because of the existence of these duties. But still it is these mill-owners that take plenty of your *copra*.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*) : Will it not affect them in course of time ?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : Then, we can consider it. I am interested in agriculture equally as you are, but I am interested in industry also.

Sir, before I close, I wish to say a word about the Economic Development Board. Before I was connected with it, I used to hear a lot about its working. I was connected with this Board for the last three years and I can most strongly say that there is no justification for the existence of this Board any longer. From the Budget I can see that Rs. 5,000 is provided for the continuance of this Board for the next year. I wish that the Government would take my suggestion and divert this money towards the development of the sales depot so that there will be Rs. 22,000, which amount will enable the Director to give a good trial to the sales depot. Sir, I can understand the object with which this Economic Development Board was brought into existence 10 or 15 years ago by Mr. Raghavaiah. Then, there was no public body, nor any institution interested in commerce and industry in the State to advise the Government on matters connected with trade and industry. But to-day in Alleppey there are the Travancore Chamber of Commerce and also the Alleppey Chamber of Commerce, two institutions which, I think, are capable of advising Government in these matters. I do find from my intimate experience with the Economic Development Board that there is no justification for throwing out good money after bad by continuing the institution.

Sir, this time last year, I also suggested to the Government the desirability of examining our entire educational system to see whether the vast sums of money are being spent on right lines. I thought the Government would appoint a committee to go into this question, but they have not done anything so far. I wish the Government would appoint

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a committee now at least and that that Committee would study the whole problem, particularly in regard to technical education.

PRESIDENT : In spite of what the member has been saying about the Economic Development Board, I have to state that the term of the present Economic Development Board expires at the close of the current Malabar year ; and four members have to be elected from among the non-official members of this House or from outside. The Deputy President will kindly preside at the end of to-day's meeting, and members will please elect the four members.

The Council rose for lunch at 2-3 P. M. and reassembled at 2-55 P. M.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Sir, I want to make a request to the Financial Secretary that he may as well not deliver his budget speech at all hereafter if it is going to be of the type that we have had this year and the one we had this time last year. His speech is nothing but a mere correlation of figures which, I feel, may better be left to us ; for I feel, we can correlate the figures ourselves. When Mr. Karunakaran said that there was a slight departure in the framing of the budget this year, I think he was expressing only a wish and not an accomplished fact. We want to get a comprehensive scheme as to how the State stands at present and what it will be in the immediate future. That must be the aim of a budget speech rather than the mere enumeration of details of figures and the statement, in a dry manner, "We are going to do this or that." So much with regard to the construction of the speech.

With regard to the general discussion of the budget, I wish to make a suggestion that the time allotted is absolutely inadequate if we want to touch upon all the departments. I do not think we have been able to touch upon all the departments in any session of the Council. We have been passing over many of the departments; and if you, Sir, follow the arrangement that has been proposed this year, I think some of the very important development departments like Forest, and Excise will entirely go without any discussion. That is my fear. We have got a lot of things to say on these departments. I may now straightway come to the budget proper.

With regard to the budget, as it is presented, I may at once say that the task of the Financial Secretary in these times, in framing a budget is not an easy one. There is no use of minimising the difficulties that will confront the Financial Secretary in these difficult times ; but the test of the success of the Financial Secretary in framing the budget ought to be looked at from this criterion, *viz.*, as to how far he has been able to reduce unnecessary expenditure. Has he reduced expenditure, with the aid of the Retrenchment Committee to the *margin of efficiency*? Is there no department, no item of expenditure, no pie that is spent which he could not avoid spending ? If we look at the budget from this point of view we find that there are various items of expenditure that could very well have been avoided. On the other

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hand, the Retrenchment Committee, working in this direction, took upon itself a very puritanical aspect with regard to the cut. By "puritanical cut" I mean that the cuts that they proposed were very moderate. That Committee which had an official majority, voted for a reduction of nearly Rs. 9,88,000 and out of that only the cut of Rs. 2 lakhs odd has been sanctioned by Government. Proposals to the extent of Rs. 3 lakhs odd have been vetoed, and cuts to the extent of about Rs. 4 lakhs remain under the consideration of the Government. This is a very tardy method of effecting retrenchment. Sir, in the matter of balancing a budget, there are only two methods, one to increase the revenue and the other to curtail expenditure. With regard to the question of curtailing expenditure, and with regard to the endeavours made by the Retrenchment Committee and by the Government together, it must be said unequivocally that the endeavours have been most disappointing and the action of the Government has not at all been adequate though the proposals made by the Committee were very moderate. With regard to the question of cuts in the salaries of officers, a proposition which has been pressed in this House for years together, and the fact that our administration is top-heavy has not been considered by the Government at all. Every State and every portion of India are reducing expenditure to a very great extent. Sir, I want to give a startling information to this House with regard to the reduction of salary in certain private concerns. I do not know whether I have got the necessary permission to do so from those quarters. The Financial Secretary has not thought it necessary at all to make any reduction in the pay of Government officers. I do not know the reason why he has made a patch work of the budget with the windfall, to the extent of Rs. 10 lakhs, on account of the Harbour agreement. Without that, he would have been in a rather difficult circumstance. He has been able to show a surplus budget on account of that windfall. The reductions proposed by the Retrenchment Committee were unconscionably low when we look at the poverty that the country suffers from. I was told during my conversation with my friend, Mr. Lampard, who was getting a very high pay, that the retrenchment cut in his salary was to the extent of 60 per cent. Think of a Government, a Government that boasts to run the departments for the benefit of the people, a Government whose existence is co-existent with the prosperity of the people, and think of a firm which does things in a business-like manner. Sixty per cent. of the pay of Mr. Lampard has been cut. What is the pay of our Dewan? What is the pay of our different Departmental Heads? What reductions have been made in their pay? In the case of the company, 10 per cent. cut has been effected in the case of all hands getting above Rs. 25 per mensem. They do it as a real business proposition. If they do not make effective cuts and reduce expenditure, they know they will have to wind up their business. But the Government do not feel that. They think that the ryots can be squeezed and squeezed and that they will be able to get money whatever may be the economic

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condition of the people. But, that is a wrong notion. That is an unwise notion. It is a notion not born out of a long vision. I do not think that the Government can go on like this. Look at the cuts made on Mr. Lampard's pay and he is still working even though his pay is reduced. We want Departmental Heads and officers who will run the business of the State with such patriotism and who will be able to make sacrifices in times of necessity as these gentlemen do. Otherwise, there is no future for this Government. I do not think the Government will have the confidence of the people which is very necessary for the Government. The people must be assured that their interests are safe in the hands of the Government. The impression has to be created that they are doing everything as a matter of patriotic duty to the State. That is very necessary for the Government. I want to say only so much with regard to that. There are various other items of expenditure which I may not be able to point out within my limited time. Therefore my suggestion is that a committee of officials and non-officials with a non-official majority, should be constituted to consider the question of retrenchment. We do not want this shibboleth of a Retrenchment Committee that we had, any longer. We have seen enough of it. No work has been done. We want a new committee of experts whose recommendations must be accepted by Government. There should be no question of any further consideration by Government. Government may nominate men who enjoy their confidence, but of course not men who will dance according to their tune. I hope Government will not do that. Let them take experts from officials and non-officials and let them sit over and effect retrenchment. That is the only proposal that I have to make with regard to the reduction of expenditure. The finances of the State cannot be balanced or adjusted properly without some sort of drastic measure; and delay will be dangerous. That is all I have to say with regard to the retrechment proposals concerning Government.

Then, what I want to say is about the development of our resources. I do not know whether the Government are doing all that they can with regard to the development of our resources. I do not know what the development departments are doing. I know that they are developing themselves very much, for example, the Forest Department. I have had occasion to look into some of the sales of timber and some of the activities of that Department. I have been able to see, recently, some of the forest regions in Travancore. I am sure, Sir, if you will go round and see these forests, you will be convinced that it is criminal negligence that is being perpetrated by this Department. Nobody is keen about the work of conservation of forests. Our forests are one of our inexhaustible resources. About the system of the sale of timber at nominal prices, I have interpellated and on very many other topics as well. But, as usual, I do not get any answer to my questions in time. I have sent them long before they were due from me. All inconvenient interpellations are, as a rule, never answered, and I have got a lot to my credit which remains unanswered

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though I have been repeating it from the very day I came to this Council. There is such a thing as that with regard to interpellations. Anyway, the authorities seem to think that the number of questions answered alone need be looked into; and the questions they like, are answered and the number made up. In regard to the Forest Department, I say that there are lots of excellent tracts within the reserves, very good for cultivation. There is not even a single tree on these lands. But the Conservator will not allow these lands to be cultivated, on the technical ground that there would be no rain if these lands are thrown open. It is not true, Sir. You must go and visit these spots and then you will see that on both sides of the Shencotta-Travandrum line there are vast tracts which can be cultivated as excellent paddy lands and made habitable. They would form a permanent source of revenue to the Government. They are lying idle, and there are no trees there not even of the size of the shortest member in this House. You find only grass there. It will be excellent if we utilise these lands for cultivation purposes.

I want to speak in detail about the Customs Department. I find that the Excise and the Customs Departments are jumbled together. My pointed suggestion is that the Excise and the Customs Departments should be separated. We find that the Customs Department has been neglected by the Excise Department. More than half the revenue is derived from Customs and no facility is given to the work of that Department. Though there is the Customs Regulation, there are no rules to enforce the provisions of the Regulation, so that we find defalcations and smuggling going on. On this matter, again, I have interpellated; but I have got no answers as yet. Due to some mysterious causes, several of these questions, on which information should be supplied early, have not yet been answered. The administration is most inefficient in the Customs Department. There is no one who knows thoroughly what the Customs Regulation is, and how the customs duty is to be derived. The Customs Department has to consider very many vexed questions, with regard to tariff and to hear the complaints made by the commercial community and by chambers of commerce. I know of a complaint pending enquiry with the Government, and I do not want to go into it in detail. In fixing the price of coconuts Government want to protect the oil industry. They put the price of oil at Rs. 15 per cwt., put the price of *copra* at Rs. 20. That may be all right for the purpose of fixing the tariff. To assess tariff, that price may be fixed. We find that we are called upon at times to calculate the volume of trade. Oil is put at Rs. 15. It is on this rate that the Banking Enquiry Committee came to the conclusion with regard to the volume of our trade and the necessity for an exchange bank. It is these statistics regarding the volume of our trade that have been supplied to the Davidson Committee. It is wholly misleading. These statistics have no value.

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I am glad to find that there is a provision for the collection of statistics; but that provision will not be sufficient. It will not be an effective way of getting at correct statistics. For correct statistics we must have a Bureau of Statistics, and not a mere correlation of figures prepared by a staff of inefficient clerks. We want a Bureau of Statistics which alone will be able to supply us with the necessary figures and enable us to know the condition of our trade.

With regard to one item, Sir, I must draw your pointed attention. That is the leakage of revenue owing to smuggling and other activities. Leakage of revenue has become almost a matter of permanent occurrence in various places. If there is no case of smuggling being detected anywhere, the Government want us to take it for granted as gospel truth that there is absolutely no smuggling. If a case of smuggling is detected somewhere, they would concede that that was the only case, and then would close their eyes. Some years ago, there was a case of smuggling at Alleppey and owing to the want of procedure and rules, it has not been possible for the Government to correlate the delinquents with the offences. Again, smuggling was detected at Trivandrum and loss of thousands of rupees reported. In answer to an interpellation on the subject, Government have given an evasive reply saying that a loss of about Rs. 428 was detected under smuggling. This is the amount which the Government were able to fix on the delinquent and institute proceedings against him. Evidence could be had to realise only so much. But the actual amount was not Rs. 428 but more than a thousand. Rs. 428 is the amount realised from the officer concerned. There is absolutely no use in covering up all these things, Sir. You must take us into your confidence and tell us the truth. I find that the British Government in their Appropriation Report make can did statements. I read in the *Bombay Chronicle* recently that a case of fraud was detected somewhere near Bombay and that the person was doing this sort of humbug for some time past. The Government took the public into their confidence and the latter understood the situation correctly. But here nothing of that sort happens. Because somebody's man is in the department, through whose inefficiency, negligence or acquiesence the smuggling occurred, the man who detected the smuggling and the officers in the department fear the displeasure of that high official to whom this petty officer may be related. He very criminally and most unpatriotically forgets the fact that it is a loss to the revenues of the State which must be utilised for the development of the State, as a whole, including himself and his community, to the benefits of the subjects of His Highness the Maha Raja. I think no explanation has been called for from the officers concerned in regard to the irregularities in the Quilon Customs Office where a case of smuggling to the extent of thousands of rupees occurred some time ago. A very clever officer was deputed to audit the accounts and he found out that there was smuggling to that extent. His reward for detecting the delinquent—so that every officer who is engaged in similar work could take a lesson from the example if he also finds out a case of smuggling—was that he has been virtually ordered not to enter the

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portals of any customs office hereafter. Sir, this is the reward for finding out a case of smuggling. The checking of accounts has been stopped.

PRESIDENT: Your time is up, Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Will you kindly allow me two minutes more, Sir?

PRESIDENT: No.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Two minutes just to wind up, Sir. We were used to get such indulgence at the hands of previous Presidents.

PRESIDENT: Finish soon, please.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): I have not been able to explain all that I wanted to say with regard to the Customs Department. It is a technical matter, and I have not been able to compress the facts and present them to you, Sir. Anyhow, I would draw your pointed attention, and the attention of the House, to the cases of smuggling that took place in Trivandrum and Quilon so that it may be an eye-opener to you. I would crave you, Sir, to institute an enquiry by a committee of officials and non-officials with regard to the loss of revenue by leakage in Quilon and in Trivandrum.

MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vaikam*): സർ, ഈ സാമ്പത്തികകാര്യപത്രത്തിനകാത്തു ഒരു "ബാക്കി ബഡ്ഡറു"് ഈ സഭമുമ്പാകെ അവതരിപ്പിക്കയെന്നുള്ളതു് ഈ നാട്ടിലുള്ളവർക്കും അതു ഫാജരാക്കിയ അധികാരികൾക്കും വലിയ ആശ്വാസകരമായ ഒരു കാര്യമായിരിക്കും. ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി ൧൯൩൧-ൽ ൫ ലക്ഷംരൂപാ ബാക്കിവരുമെന്നു പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചു് ഒരു ബഡ്ഡറു ഫാജരാക്കി. ൧൯൩൧ അവസാനത്തിൽ ഏഴരലക്ഷത്തിൽചിലപ്പോൾ രൂപാ അധികംവരുമെന്നു പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടും അവസാനിച്ചതു് ൧൯൩൨-ൽ ലക്ഷം രൂപായുടെ അധികച്ചിലവിലായിരുന്നു. ൪൫,൦൦൦ രൂപാ ബാക്കിവരുമെന്നു ഒരു കണക്കുണ്ടാക്കി അതെല്ലാവരെയും വിശ്വസിപ്പിച്ചു് ൧൯൩൨-ലേക്കു ഒരു ബഡ്ഡറു ഫാജരാക്കി. എങ്കിലും ഇപ്പോൾ പറയുന്നതു്, അതിൽ ൩ ലക്ഷം രൂപായുടെ അധികച്ചിലവുവരുമെന്നാണു്.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): ആറുലക്ഷമല്ല കണ്ക്കുട്ടലും കുറവുംവരും; അതായതു, കരം പിരിക്കേണ്ട എന്നുതരവുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് ആയുകയ്ക്കു വ്യത്യാസം വന്നേക്കാം.

MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vaikam*): അപ്പോൾ ൩ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ കുറവുവരുമെന്നു പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കേണ്ടതായിരിക്കുന്നു. ജനങ്ങളുടെ അപേക്ഷപ്രകാരംവരുന്ന കുറവിനെപ്പറ്റി വിമർശനം ചെയ്യുന്നില്ല. എങ്കിലും

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ന്നഫ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചതിൽനിന്നും കുറവുവന്നിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതു പ്രത്യക്ഷമാണ്. ഈ ആറരലക്ഷം രൂപാതന്നെയും ബഡ്ജറിൽ ചില വിനത്തിൽ ചേർത്തിട്ടുള്ള പലയിനത്തിലും ചിലവു കുറച്ചതിനുശേഷം വരുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ള കുറവാണ്. ഈ കുറച്ചതു് അധികം ഭാഗവും പൊതുമരാമത്തു വകുപ്പിലുമാണ്. ആറരലക്ഷം രൂപായോളം പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചതിൽനിന്നും കുറവുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള ഫ ഫ ൦ ഒ-ലെ ബഡ്ജറും, പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചതിൽ ഫ ഫ ലക്ഷം രൂപായോളം കുറവുവന്നിട്ടുള്ള ഫ ഫ ൦ ന്യ-ലെ ബഡ്ജറും നോക്കുമ്പോൾ ഫ ലക്ഷത്തിൽചിലപാനം രൂപാ മിച്ചം വരുമെന്നുള്ള ആശ ഏതുനിലയിൽ സാധുവായിവരുമെന്നു വളരെ സംശയിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഫ ഫ ൦ ന്യ-ലും, ഫ ഫ ൦ ഒ-ലും കൂട്ടരുലായി ഞങ്ങളെ കാണിച്ചതുപോലെ ഫ ഫ ൦ വ-ലും കൂട്ടരുലാണെന്നു ഞങ്ങളെ കാണിക്കാനല്ലാതെ യഥാർത്ഥത്തിൽ ഈ കൂട്ടരുൽവരുമെന്നു ഒരുവിധത്തിലും ചിന്തിക്കാൻ വഴിയുള്ളതായിട്ടു കാണുന്നില്ല. "ഒരു ചക്രംപോലും" കരംകൊടുക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെ അനേകം വസ്തുക്കൾ വിറുപോയി എന്നു ഒരു കണക്കു ഗവണ്മെൻറു സൈഡിൽനിന്നും നമുക്കു തന്നിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ ക്ഷാമം ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറയും ക്ഷാമമാണ്. എന്നു ബോദ്ധ്യംവന്നപ്പോൾ ഭ്രനികുതി പിരിക്കുന്നതിനു നാലു മാസത്തെ അവധികൊടുത്തു. ക്ഷാമം കുറയുന്നതിനു യാതൊരു വഴിയുമില്ലാത്ത ഇക്കാലത്തു് ആശിക്കുന്ന കൂട്ടരുൽ ഫ ഫ ൦ വ-ൽ കിട്ടുമെന്നോ, മിച്ചംവരുമെന്നോ ഒരുവിധത്തിലും വിചാരിക്കാൻ മാർഗ്ഗം കാണുന്നില്ല. ചില ചില്ലറ വകുപ്പുകളിൽ ഒരു ചെറിയ കൂട്ടരുൽ വരുമെന്നു ആശിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്; അതായതു, പോർട്ടിൽനിന്നും ഫ ൦ ലക്ഷം രൂപായോളം കിട്ടുമെന്നാണു്. ഈ ഫ ൦ ലക്ഷംരൂപാകൊണ്ടു മറുതരത്തിലുള്ള കുറവിനെ ഏതുതരത്തിൽ പരിഹരിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നു കണ്ടുതന്നെ അറിയേണ്ടതാണു്.

ഇങ്ങനെയിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു ഘട്ടത്തിൽ ചിലവിൽ കുറവുവരുത്തുക എന്നുള്ളതല്ലാതെ മറു യാതൊരുമാർഗ്ഗവും കാണുന്നില്ല. ഫ ഫ ൦ ന്യ ആരംഭംമുതൽ വളരെ ഗൌരവമായി അനുഭവപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനത്തിനു എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു പരിഹാരം നേടണമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനും തോന്നുകയും, ഈ സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനവിഷയം ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽപെടുത്തുകയും; ഫ ഫ ൦ ൻെറ തുലാം ൻ.ാനു- മുതൽ ക്കുതന്നെ അതിലേക്കുവേണ്ട ജോലി ആരംഭിക്കയുംചെയ്തതായി റിപ്പോർട്ടുകൊണ്ടു കാണുന്നുണ്ടു്. കൊച്ചിയിലും ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇൻഡ്യയിലും സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനത്തിനു പരിഹാരമായി ചിലവു കുറയ്ക്കുണ്ട സംഗതി

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[Mr. A. Narayana Pillai.]

യെപ്പററി ആലോചിച്ചു കുറവുവരുത്തേണ്ടതു വരുത്തി. ഇവിടെ ഒരു കൊല്ലംവരെ ആലോചിച്ചു, രണ്ടുലക്ഷത്തിൽ ചിലപ്പോഴം രൂപാ കുറവും വരുത്തി. ജനങ്ങളെ ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെടുത്താൻവേണ്ടി ഇവിടെ ഒരു റിട്ടഞ്ചുമെൻറുകമ്മിററിനടപ്പിൽവരുത്തി. ഇതുയും ചെയ്തു എന്നല്ലാതെ അതിൽ കൂടുതൽ വല്ലതും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്നുള്ളതു സംശയമാണ്. മി: ദാമോദരൻആശാൻ പറഞ്ഞതുപോലെ ഒരുദാഹരണം പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ വീട്ടിലുള്ളവക്കു പാല്പായസം കൂടിക്കണമെന്നുതോന്നിയപ്പോൾ വാലിയക്കാരനു ചോറു കൊടുക്കേണ്ട എന്നു തീരുമാനിച്ചതുപോലെയല്ലാതെ മറെറാന്നുംതന്നെ ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല. വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരും നാട്ടിൽ പ്രാമാണ്യമുള്ള ആളുകളുംകൂടിയിരുന്നു ആലോചിച്ചു പാവപ്പെട്ട ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെശമ്പളത്തിൽ കുറയ്ക്കാൻ ഒന്നുമില്ല എന്നുള്ളതു കൊണ്ടു് അവരെ മുഴുവനും കുറച്ചു പിരിച്ചുവിട്ടതായിട്ടാണു കാണുന്നതു്. റിട്ടഞ്ച്മെൻറ് ഈ നിലയിൽ പരിണമിച്ചതു വളരെ അഭിമാനകരംതന്നെ. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ സംസ്ഥാനത്തുള്ള വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളം വളരെകവിഞ്ഞുപോയി എന്നംഅതിൽ ന്യായമായ കുറവുവരുത്തിചിലവു ശരിപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നും ഉള്ളതു അനേകകാലമായി പൊതുജനങ്ങൾ മുറവിളികൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരുവിഷയമാണ്. അങ്ങനെയിരിക്കുന്ന സന്ദർഭത്തിലാണു സാമ്പത്തീകാധഃപതനവിഷയം ആലോചനയിൽ വന്നതു. വലിയഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽ ഒരു കാശുപോലും ഗവണ്മെൻറ് കുറച്ചില്ല എന്നുമാത്രമല്ല ചിലചെറിയ ശമ്പളക്കൂടുതൽക്രൂടി കൊടുക്കയാണു് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

MR. R. S. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): റിട്ടഞ്ചുമെൻറുകമ്മിററിക്കാർ ശമ്പളം കുട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ശുപാർശ ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ലെന്നറിയാമോ?

MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vaikam*): റിട്ടഞ്ചുമെൻറുകമ്മിററിക്കാരുടെ ശുപാർശ ഏതുതരത്തിലായിരുന്നാലും ചിലക്കു ശമ്പളം കുട്ടിക്കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു കാണുന്നുണ്ട്. അവരുടെ ശുപാർശ ശമ്പളം കുറയ്ക്കുന്നതിനായിരുന്നു എന്നു വിചാരിച്ചാലും അതു കുറയ്ക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. രണ്ടരലക്ഷം രൂപായോളം ശമ്പളത്തിൽ കുറവുവരുത്താമെന്നു വിചാരിച്ചതു വരുത്തിയിട്ടില്ല. റിഞ്ചുമെൻറുകമ്മിററിക്കാർ സാധുക്കളെ ഉപദ്രവിച്ചു ൨,൫൫,൦൦൦ രൂപായോളം മിച്ചം വരുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടു്

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എന്നുള്ളതു സമ്മതിക്കാം. ഇതുയുമാണെങ്കിൽ താഴ്ന്നശമ്പളക്കാരുടെ വയറ്റിലടിക്കാതെ കഴിക്കാമായിരുന്നു. ചില ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു അവർക്കു നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ശമ്പളത്തുകയിൽനിന്നും കുറേതലായിട്ടു പെഴ്സനൽ പെ എന്നൊരു ഇനംപറഞ്ഞു ആണ്ടിൽ ൬,൦൦൦ രൂപായോളം ഗവണ്മെൻറു കൊടുത്തുവരികയാണുചെയ്യുന്നതു്. ഈഏർപ്പാടു തൽക്കാലത്തേക്കോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ സ്ഥിരമായിട്ടോ നിറുത്തണമെന്നുവിചാരിച്ചിരുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ ഒരു നല്ലതുക ലാഭം കിട്ടുമായിരുന്നു. ചെറിയ ശമ്പളക്കാരോടു ചോദിച്ചാൽ "ഞങ്ങളുടെ ശമ്പളം കഷ്ടിച്ചു കഞ്ഞികുടിക്കാൻപോലും മതിയാകുന്നില്ല" എന്നുപറയുന്നു. വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ കഥ ആലോചിച്ചാൽ അവരുടെ സ്റ്റാറ്റസ്, ജീവിതരീതി, ഇവ ഈ ശമ്പളരീതിക്കു ശീലിച്ചുപോയതിനാൽ അതു ഭേദപ്പെടുത്താൻ പാടില്ലെന്നു പറയുന്നു. ഈ രണ്ടു കാരണംകൊണ്ടു ശമ്പളത്തിൽഭേദഗതി ചെയ്യാൻ വയ്യാതെയാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇപ്പോൾ സർവീസിലിരിക്കുന്നവരെ സംബന്ധിച്ചടത്തോളം എന്തെങ്കിലും ഭേദഗതി ചെയ്യണമെന്നു പറയുമ്പോഴാണല്ലൊ സങ്കടംഉണ്ടാകുന്നതു്. ഇനിമേൽ വരാൻപോകുന്ന നിയമനങ്ങൾക്കു് ഇപ്പോൾ നിശ്ചയിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ശമ്പളത്തിന്റെ മുക്കാൽഭാഗമെങ്കിലുംകൊടുക്കയുള്ളു എന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു നിശ്ചയിക്കുമെങ്കിൽ അതിൽ ആക്ഷേപം പറയാതിപ്പെടാൻ കാര്യമില്ലല്ലൊ. ഞാൻ ൧൫൦ രൂപാ ശമ്പളം കിട്ടുമെന്നുദ്ദേശിച്ചാണു വന്നതു് എന്നു പിന്നീടു ആരും പറയുന്നതല്ല. എന്നു മാത്രമല്ല ഈ ശമ്പളത്തിനു ജോലിചെയ്യാൻ ആളുണ്ടാവുകയും ചെയ്യും. ഒരുപക്ഷേ ശമ്പളത്തുകയുടെ മുഴുപ്പിനെ കണ്ടുമാത്രം ഭ്രമിക്കുന്നവരുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അങ്ങനെയുള്ളവരുടെ എണ്ണം കുറയുകയും ചെയ്യും. ഇങ്ങനെ ഈ ഒരിനത്തിൽ അഞ്ചാറുകൊല്ലംകൊണ്ടു തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ബഡ്ജറ്റ് ക്രമീകരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുവരാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നാണു കാണുന്നതു്. ൧൦൫ അവസാനത്തിൽ ഇവിടത്തെ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിൽനിന്നും പിരിയുന്നവരുടെ ശമ്പളംമാത്രം നോക്കിയാൽ ഏകദേശം ൫൦,൦൦൦ രൂപായോളം നമുക്കു ഈ നിലയിൽ മിച്ചംവയ്ക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നാണു തോന്നുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങനെ പലവഴികളും അതിലേക്കു ചൂണ്ടലപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളവർ ആലോചിച്ചിരിക്കാം. ഇതൊന്നും കൂടാതെ കഴിക്കാനായി കുറെ സാധുക്കളായ ആളുകളെ പിരിച്ചുവിട്ടു് അവരുടെ കുടുംബം എന്നെന്നേക്കും കഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നതിനനുവദിച്ചു. ഇതിൽഭേദം വലിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളം സ്വല്പംകുറച്ചു് ആക്ഷേപമൊന്നുമില്ലാത്തനിലയിൽ ഒരു മിച്ചം ഉണ്ടാക്കുകയായിരുന്നു വേണ്ടിയിരുന്നതു്.

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[Mr. A. Narayana Pillai.]

വ്യയനിയന്ത്രണകമ്മിറ്റിക്കാരുടെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ ഉടമസ്ഥനില്ലാത്ത പിള്ളയായി കണ്ടതു പൊതുമരാമത്തുവകുപ്പാണ്. കഴിഞ്ഞ കൊല്ലത്തെക്ക അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തുക നോക്കുമ്പോൾ ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനോടു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു പ്രത്യേകം വൈരാഗ്യമുണ്ടോ എന്നുകൂടി തോന്നിപ്പോകും. ൧൧൦൭-ൽ ഈ വകുപ്പിലേക്കു ൪൯൯ ലക്ഷം രൂപയാണ് അനുവദിച്ചിരുന്നതു്. ഈ തുക ഇവിടത്തെ ആവശ്യത്തിനു തീരെമതിയാകുന്നതല്ല എന്നു മുറവിളിക്കൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ൧൧൦൮-ലേക്കു ൫൫ ലക്ഷം രൂപായാക്കി. ആ ൫൫ ലക്ഷം രൂപായിലാണ് ൬൯ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ൧൧൦൯-ൽ ചിലവാക്കിയതു്. ഈ തോതനുസരിച്ചു ൧൧൧൦-ലും ൫൬ ലക്ഷംരൂപായെ വച്ചുകാണുന്നുള്ളൂ. ഇതിന്റെ അർത്ഥം നാട്ടിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ആവശ്യമുള്ള തോടോ, റോഡോ, പാലങ്ങളൊ കിട്ടുന്നില്ല എന്നൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ അവ കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറു തയ്യാറില്ലെന്നൊ മാത്രമാണ്. പൊതുമരാമത്തുവകുപ്പിൽ കുറവു വരുത്താതിരിക്കുന്നതു രണ്ടുപ്രകാരത്തിൽ ഗുണമാണ്. നാട്ടിലുള്ളവരുടെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ നടക്കുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതൊന്നു, ഇവിടെയുള്ള സാധുക്കളായ കൂലിവേലക്കാരുടെ ദാരിദ്ര്യത്തിനു പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാകുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതു മറൊന്ന്. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള പൊതുമരാമത്തു വകുപ്പിലേക്കനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പണം കുറയ്ക്കാമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ തോന്നിയതു് കഷ്ടാൽ കഷ്ടതരമെന്നല്ലാതെ മറൊന്നും പറയുവാനില്ല. അത്യാവശ്യമായി നടത്തേണ്ട ചില ജോലികൾ വേണ്ടെന്നുവച്ചാണ് ൧൧൦൯-ൽ ൫൫ ലക്ഷം രൂപാ ഈ വകുപ്പിൽ കുറച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ബഡ്ജറിൽ ഒരു ഇനത്തിനുവേണ്ടി പണം ചേർക്കുന്നതുതന്നെ അനേകംപ്രാവശ്യം ജനങ്ങൾ മുറവിളിക്കൂട്ടിയതിന്റെ ഫലമായിട്ടാണ്. ആ തുക ആവശ്യമില്ല എന്നു ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മറ്റു മുതലാക്കാരൊ നിശ്ചയിച്ചുവെങ്കിൽ പ്രജാസഭയിലും മറ്റും ജനപ്രതിനിധികൾ ഓരൊ ജോലികൾ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാവശ്യമാണെന്നു പറയുന്നതിനു അർത്ഥമില്ല എന്നുമല്ല വരുന്നതു്. കോട്ടയം, വയ്ക്കം എന്നീ താലൂക്കുകളിലുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾ കഴിഞ്ഞ ൫൭ കൊല്ലമായിട്ടു വഴക്കുപറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതിയാണ് വയ്ക്കം-വെച്ചൂർ റോഡിനെ കോട്ടയത്തേക്കു എത്തിക്കുക എന്നുള്ളതു്. നാലുകൊല്ലംകൊണ്ടു ഈ റോഡിന്റെ പണി പൂർത്തിയാകുമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രസ്താവിച്ചു ൧൧൦൨-ൽ പണി ആരംഭിച്ചു. ഒന്നൊ രണ്ടൊ കൊല്ലം പണിനടത്തിയശേഷം ഇപ്പോൾ യാതൊരുപണിയും നടത്താതെ ഇട്ടിരിക്കയാണ്. ഈ

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പണി തീർന്നഭാഗം തന്നെ ശരിയായി സംരക്ഷിക്കാതെ വേല ചെയ്തതു കൂടി നിഷ്പ്രയോജനമായി തീർന്നേക്കാനിടയുണ്ട്. കഴിഞ്ഞ കൌൺസിലിൽ എന്റെ ചോദ്യത്തിനു മറുപടിപറഞ്ഞതു സാമ്പത്തികാധിപതനത്തിനു ഒരു സമാധാനം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നകാലത്തു ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കാമെന്നാണ്. മറെറാരുതരത്തിലും ചിലവുകുറയ്ക്കാൻ വഴികാണാതെ ഗവണ്മെൻറു പൊതുമരാമത്തു വകുപ്പിലേക്കു നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ള തുകകുറയ്ക്കുന്നതു നാട്ടിൽ ക്ഷാമം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതിനു കാരണമാകുന്നഒന്നാണെന്നു പറയാതെ തരമില്ല.

ധനപരിപോഷണവകുപ്പിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിപതിയുന്നുണ്ടു് അല്ലെങ്കിൽ പതിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു് എന്നു കാണുന്നതു സന്തോഷാവഹംതന്നെ. ഇന്നു റയിൽവേയ്ക്കു ചിലവാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള രണ്ടുകോടിരൂപായൊ പേച്ചിപ്പാറഅണക്കു ചിലവാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ള ഒരുകോടിരൂപായൊപൊലെനഷ്ടമില്ലാത്തതും ജനങ്ങൾക്കു സങ്കടമില്ലാത്തതും ആയ പദ്ധതി—എലക്ട്രിക്കു സ്കീം—ഗവണ്മെൻറു നടപ്പിൽവരുത്താൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തു എലക്ട്രിസിറ്റി നടപ്പിൽവരുത്തിയതിൽനിന്നും അതു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു നഷ്ടമുള്ള ഒന്നല്ല എന്നാണു കാണുന്നതു്. ഇപ്പോൾ പള്ളിവാശൽ ഹൈഡ്രോ എലക്ട്രിക്കു സ്കീം പ്രയോഗത്തിൽ വരുത്തുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ആലോചിക്കുന്നതായിട്ടു കാണുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു വടക്കൻതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ജനങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടു നന്ദിപറയേണ്ടതായിട്ടുണ്ട്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ പ്രധാനപട്ടണമായ തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തു പൌവ്വർ ഹൌസും മറും ഉണ്ടാക്കി അവിടത്തെ പൌരന്മാക്കു എലക്ട്രിക് ലൈറ്റ് കൊടുത്തു. എന്നാൽ ഞങ്ങൾക്കു വെറുതെപോകുന്ന വെള്ളത്തിൽനിന്നും എലക്ട്രിസിറ്റി കിട്ടുവാൻ പോകുന്നു. ഈ വകയ്ക്കു നൂറ് ലക്ഷം രൂപാ വേണ്ടിവരുന്നു.

MR. R. S. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ എത്രലക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കാണു് ഇതുകൊണ്ടുപയോഗപ്പെടുന്നതു്?

MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vaikam*): അനേകം താലൂക്കുകളിലുള്ളവക്കു ഇതു ഉപകാരപ്പെടുന്നതായിട്ടാണു് കാണുന്നതു്. മണ്ണെണ്ണയ്ക്കു വേണ്ടി അന്യരാജ്യങ്ങളിലേക്കു പോകുന്നപണം മുഴുവനും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽതന്നെ ജോലിചെയ്യുന്നവക്കു കിട്ടുന്നതാണു്; അതുകൊണ്ടു അതു അതു നിലയിലും പ്രയോജനകരമാണു്.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): Does the member know that it is not desirable to embark upon a costly scheme at a time of economic paralysis?

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MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vaikam*) : This is a capital expenditure.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR (*Agastisvaram*) : Does the member know that the utility of the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme is controversial ?

MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vaikam*) : അല്ലെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

വ്യവസായവകുപ്പിനു ഒരു പുതിയ ജീവൻ കൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതു ആശ്വാസകരംതന്നെ. കൂടിൽവ്യവസായം വളർത്തിക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറു തയ്യാറായികാണുന്നുണ്ട്. നെയ്ത്തും, ആശാരിപണിയും നടത്തുന്ന സ്ഥാപനങ്ങൾ, കമ്മേർസ്യൽ സ്കൂൾ, ടെക്നിക്കൽ ഇൻസ്റ്റിറ്റ്യൂട്ട്, കരകൌശലശാല തുടങ്ങിയുള്ളവ പല സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും പലപ്രകാരത്തിൽ നടത്തിവരികയാണ്. ഈ സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളെല്ലാം കേന്ദ്രീകരിപ്പിച്ചു ഇതിനെല്ലാറ്റിനുംകൂടി സൌകര്യമുള്ള തിരുവനന്തപുരം പട്ടണത്തിലൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മറുവല്ല സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലൊ സ്ഥാപിച്ചു ഓരോരുത്തരുടെയും വാസനപോലെ അഭ്യസിക്കുന്നതിനു സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാക്കികൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ വ്യവസായഡയറക്ടരുടെയും ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെയും ശ്രദ്ധപതിഞ്ഞു കണ്ടാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നൊരപേക്ഷയുണ്ട്.

വ്യവസായഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ സഹായാർത്ഥം ഒരു സെയിൽസ് ഡിപ്പൊ തുറക്കാനും ഒരു ടെയിഡ് ഏജൻറിനെ ഏർപ്പെടുത്താനുമായി ഒരു തുക ബഡ്ജറിൽ കാണുന്നുണ്ട്. തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തു കേന്ദ്രമായി ഒരു സെയിൽസ്ഡിപ്പൊവേണമെന്നുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും മറു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും ഏജൻറിനെ അയച്ചു അവിടത്തെയും വ്യവസായങ്ങളെ പോഷിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

പഴയറിക്കാർഡുകൾ (ചുരുണകൾ) സൂക്ഷിക്കത്തക്ക നിധിയാണെന്നു ബോദ്ധ്യംവന്നു ഇപ്പോൾ അതിലേക്കു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഒരു സംഖ്യ നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു് അഭിമാനകരംതന്നെ എന്നു പറയാതെ തരമില്ല. അനേകം കാലമായി നോക്കുന്നതിനു ആളില്ലാതെയും നോക്കിയാൽ മനസ്സിലാകുന്നതിനു നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെയുമിരിക്കുന്ന മലയാളം റിക്കാർഡുകളെ നോക്കി സൂക്ഷിക്കണമെന്നു ഇപ്പോഴാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു തോന്നിയതു. ഈ റിക്കാർഡുകളെല്ലാം മലയാം തമിഴിലാണ് സൂക്ഷിക്കപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ആ ഭാഷ അറിയാവുന്ന ചില വയസ്സന്മാരുണ്ടായിരുന്നവർ പോയികഴിഞ്ഞു. ഇനിയും മുക്കം ചിലരുള്ളവർക്കുടി മരിച്ചുപോകുന്നതിനുമുമ്പിൽ ഇതു നോക്കിതജ്ജിമചെയ്യുവയ്ക്കുന്നതു നന്നായിരിക്കും.

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കോവാപ്പറേറീവു സൊസൈറ്റികൾ കടംവാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള സ്ഥാപനങ്ങളായിട്ടാണ് ജനങ്ങൾ വിചാരിച്ചുവച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ എവിടെചെന്നാലും കോവാപ്പറേറീവു സൊസൈറ്റി രജിസ്റ്റർചെയ്തിട്ടില്ലാത്ത ഒരു താലൂക്കുംകാണുകയില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ലിക്വിഡേറ്റിങ്ങ് ഇൻസ്പെക്ടക്കു ലിക്വിഡേറ്റുചെയ്യാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാത്തവിധത്തിൽ അനേകം സൊസൈറ്റികൾ കടത്തിൽ ഉഴപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതു കോവാപ്പറേഷനെപ്പറ്റി ശരിയായി മനസ്സിലാക്കാഴികകൊണ്ടോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ജനങ്ങളെ ശരിയായി മനസ്സിലാക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ടോ വന്നിട്ടുള്ള ദോഷമാണ്. ഈ ന്യൂനത എല്ലപ്പും പരിഹരിക്കപ്പെടണം. കോവാപ്പറേറീവ് സൊസൈറ്റികളെ നന്നാക്കാനായി മാത്രമല്ല ശരിയായവിധത്തിൽ ജോലിചെയ്യ ദൃഷ്യംകണ്ടുപിടിക്കുന്നതിനുകൂടി തുണിയുള്ള ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റിയെ നിയമിച്ചു ആ വിധത്തിൽ ജോലിചെയ്യേണ്ടതായിട്ടാണ് ഇരിക്കുന്നതു്.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Narayana Pillai, your time is up.

MR. K. I KOCHEEPPAN MAPPILLAI (*Nominated*): സകല രാജ്യങ്ങളുടെയും ഏകമായ ശ്രദ്ധ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സാമ്പത്തിക അപകർഷണം എന്നുള്ളതിൽ മാത്രം പതിഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കയാണ്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറും ഈ അധഃപതനത്തിൽ എന്തെന്നില്ലാത്തവണ്ണം എർപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കയാണ്. ഈ അഭിഷ്ടസംഭവങ്ങൾക്കു നൽകാവുന്നിടത്തോളം നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളും വരുത്താവുന്നിടത്തോളം നിവൃത്തിമാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളും ക്രോടീകരിച്ചതായ ഒന്നാണ് ഈ സഭയുടെ പഴ്വാലോചനയ്ക്കും, ശ്രദ്ധയ്ക്കുമായിഅവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ആയവ്യയഗണനപത്രിക (ബഡ്ജറ്റ്) എന്നു പറയാതിരിപ്പാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനം സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ളകാര്യങ്ങൾഅന്വേഷിച്ചറിഞ്ഞു റിപ്പോർട്ടുചെയ്യുവാൻ ഇവിടെ ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി. വിഷയത്തിന്റെ ഗൗരവത്തിനു അനുയോജ്യമല്ലാത്ത വിധത്തിൽ അതിന്റെഗതി സാവകാശവും മന്ദവും ആയിരുന്നുവെങ്കിലും തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ജനതയുടെതല്ക്കാല ആവശ്യങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചു കമ്മിറ്റി അവരുടെറിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ സവിസ്തരംപ്രതിവാദിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ റിപ്പോർട്ടിനെ അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തി ഗവണ്മെൻറു എന്തുചെയ്യുവെന്നും, എന്തുചെയ്യാൻപോകുന്നുവെന്നും, ഇതെവരെ അറിയാറായിട്ടില്ല. കരം, ആദായനികുതി, കൃഷിവായ്പ ഈ ഇനങ്ങളിലും മറും ഗവണ്മെൻറിലേക്കു അടയ്ക്കേണ്ടതുകകൊടുക്കു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ഊർജ്ജിതനടപടികൾ നടത്തുന്നു. കരത്തിന്റെ വിഷയത്തിൽ നടത്തുന്ന ഊർജ്ജിത നടപടികൾ നിറുത്തിവയ്ക്കണമെന്നു ജനഹിതൈകവാനായ ഭാരമോദരനാശാനവർകൾ ഈ സഭയിൽ ഒരടിയ

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[Mr. K. I. Kocheeppan Mappillai.]

ന്തിരപ്രമേയം അവതരിപ്പിച്ചപ്പോൾ കരംഎന്തുമാത്രം ഇപ്പോൾ ഈടായിട്ടുണ്ടെന്ന അറിയാമോ എന്ന ആശാനവർകളോട ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രിട്ടറി ഒരു ചോദ്യം ചോദിച്ചതായി ഞാൻ ഓർക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇങ്ങനെ ചോദിച്ചതിന്റെ അർത്ഥം ഇത്രയുംപണം ഈടായിട്ടുള്ളതുകൊണ്ട വസ്തുഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർക്ക ഭൂനികുതി അല്ലെങ്കിൽ കരം തന്നുതീർക്കുന്നതിന മിസ്റ്റർ ആശാനും മറും പറയുന്നതുപോലെ പ്രയാസമില്ലായെന്ന മനസ്സിലാക്കരുതൊ എന്നതെ ഞാൻ ധരിച്ചുവച്ചത്. ഈടായവിധവും, ഈടാക്കിയസമ്പ്രദായവും ഏതു വിധമെന്ന വല്ലവരും അന്വേഷിച്ചുമനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ തയാറാവുന്നപക്ഷം ഈ തുകകൾ ഈടായിട്ടുള്ളതു്, അത്യധികമായ ദുഃഖങ്ങളിലും ദുർഘടങ്ങളിലുംകൂടി ആണെന്നം പ്രത്യക്ഷപ്പെടാതിരിക്കുന്നതല്ല. കട്ടിലുകൾ മുതലായ ശയ്യോപകരണങ്ങൾ, പാചകസാമാനങ്ങൾ കോഴിമുതലായ ചെറുജീവികൾ ഇവകളെ ഒക്കെയുംകൂടി ഈ തുകകൾ ഈടാക്കുന്നതിന വിൽക്കേണ്ടിവന്നിട്ടുണ്ടെന്ന തെളിയും. കരക്കുടിശ്ശികയുള്ള ഭൂമിത്തിന്റെ പരസ്യംകൊണ്ടു നിറഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്ന ഗസറ്റുകൾ ഒന്നിനുപുറകെ ഒന്നായിവരുന്നതു് തുറന്ന വായിക്കാൻ ധൈര്യമുള്ളവർക്കു കഴിയുന്നതല്ല. ഉല്പന്നസാധനങ്ങളുടെ വിലക്ഷയംനിമിത്തം കൃഷിചെയ്യാതെ ഇട്ടുകളഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂമികൾ തിട്ടപ്പെടുത്തി അതുകളുടെ കരമെങ്കിലും ഈടാക്കാതെ ഇരിയ്ക്കേണ്ടതു് ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ സാമാന്യമായ ധർമ്മങ്ങളിൽ ഒന്നാണു്.

ആദായനികുതി എന്നുള്ള വാക്കിന്റെ അർത്ഥം ആദായത്തിൽ നിന്നുള്ള നികുതി എന്നാണു്ഞാൻ മനസ്സിലാക്കിവച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ബാങ്കുകളിൽ തൊണ്ണൂറിൽ ഒൻപതു ശതമാനവും അതാതിന്റെ പ്രവൃത്തികൾ നിറുത്തി, കൊടുക്കാനുള്ളതു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനും, വാങ്ങാനുള്ളതു വാങ്ങിക്കുന്നതിനും, നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെ അവസാനിച്ചിരിക്കയാണു്. ഈ സ്ഥിതിയിലുള്ള ബാങ്കുകളുടെ ആദായനികുതി, കടലാസിൽ കാണുന്നതു വച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ഈടാക്കാൻ തുനിയുകയും പാർവത്യകാരന്മാർ മുതലായവർ ദിവസേനയെന്നവണ്ണം ബാങ്കുകളുടെ ഇരുമ്പുപെട്ടികൾ മുതലായവ പിടിച്ചു കുലുക്കി കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യാൻ അനുവദിക്കുന്നതു യഥാർത്ഥ സ്ഥിതിയെ കവിഞ്ഞുള്ള ഒരു കഠിന കയ്യാണു്.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): ആദായം ഉണ്ടെന്ന ബാലൻസ് ഷീറ്റിൽ കാണിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെ?

MR. K. I. KOCHEEPPAN MAPPILLAI (*Nominated*): കടലാസിൽകാണും.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): ആദായം കണക്കാക്കുന്ന കടലാസു നശിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടില്ലല്ലൊ?

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MR. K. I. KOCHEEPPAN MAPPILLAI (*Nominated*): ഇല്ല. അതു കൂടി നശിപ്പിച്ചു കളഞ്ഞാൽ ഞങ്ങൾ എന്തു ചെയ്യും.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): ഈടാക്കേണ്ട തുകയല്ലെ ആദായ നികുതി ചുമത്തുകയുള്ളു? -

MR. K. I. KOCHEEPPAN MAPPILLAI (*Nominated*): കണക്കുകളിൽ കാണുന്നതിനെല്ലാം ആദായനികുതി കൊടുക്കണം?

കൃഷിവായ്പ്പഇനത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും പുറത്തുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യകൾ ഈ നാട്ടിലെ മുടങ്ങി കിടക്കുന്ന ഒന്നോ രണ്ടോ ബാങ്കുകളുടെ മുടക്കുമുതലുകളിൽ കൂട്ടതലായിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഈ സ്ഥിതിയിൽ ആലോചിക്കുമ്പോൾ കൃഷിവായ്പ്പ ഇനത്തിൽഗവണ്മെൻറിലേക്കു ഈടാകുവാനുള്ള തുകകളുടെ കാലാവധി നീട്ടികൊടുക്കുകയും ഗഡുക്കളെ വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചു അടയ്ക്കേണ്ട സംഖ്യകളുടെ തുക കുറയ്ക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതു ഒരു വലിയ കാര്യമല്ല. ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ഇതുകൊണ്ടു യാതൊരു നഷ്ടവും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതല്ല. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും ൫,൦൦൦ രൂപാ വാങ്ങിയ്ക്കുണമെങ്കിൽ കുറഞ്ഞതു പതിനയ്യായിരം രൂപായുടെ വസ്തു ഈടു വയ്ക്കുണമെന്നു സുപ്രസിദ്ധമൊ, കുപ്രസിദ്ധമൊ ആയിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. ചിട്ടികളുടെ നടത്തിപ്പു നിറുത്തിവയ്ക്കുണമെന്നു പലകുറി പലവിധേന ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടപേക്ഷിച്ചു. അതിനു ഇതുപര്യന്തം യാതൊരു സമാധാനവും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല. അതു നിമിത്തം രാജ്യത്തുള്ള സകല ചിട്ടികളും തലയാളന്മാർ ലേലം ചെയ്യുകയും ചിറ്റാളന്മാർ ലേലം പിടിച്ചു കൊണ്ടു ഇരിക്കയുമാണ്. കിട്ടാനുള്ള ചിറ്റാളന്മാരുടെ കൈയ്യിൽനിന്നും വാങ്ങി കൊടുക്കാനുള്ള ചിറ്റാളന്മാക്കു കൊടുക്കാൻ തലയാളന്മാരെക്കൊണ്ടു ഒരുവിധത്തിലും സാധിക്കുന്നതല്ല. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥിതിയിൽ ഈപ്രവൃത്തി തുടർന്നു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കാനല്ലാതെ മറ്റുമാർഗ്ഗം ഗവണ്മെൻറു നിർദ്ദേശിക്കാത്തതു് കുന്നിച്ച ഭയങ്കരഫലങ്ങളെ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനു ശേഷിപ്പിക്കയാണു് ചെയ്യുന്നതു്.

MR. R. S. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Kalkulam* cum *Vilavankod*): ചിട്ടി ഉടമ്പടി പ്രകാരമല്ലെ നടത്തുന്നതു? അതുകൊണ്ടു ഒരു നിയമം മൂലമല്ലാതെ മാറ്റിവയ്ക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമൊ?

MR. K. I. KOCHEEPPAN MAPPILLAI (*Nominated*): നിയമം ഉണ്ടാകണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെയും അഭിപ്രായം. വിധിനടത്തു സംഗതിക്കായി ഓരൊ കോടതികളും വച്ചിട്ടുള്ള സമയങ്ങളിൽ, കച്ചേരി വരാന്തയിൽ ചെന്നു നിൽക്കുന്ന പാട്ടയത്തോട്ടക്കുടിയ മനുഷ്യക്കു് സഹ്യമല്ലാത്ത കാഴ്ചകൾ ഇന്നു തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ നിരവധിയാണ്. ഒരുഭാഗത്തു

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[Mr. K. I. Kochueppan Mappillai.]

വാറണ്ടിൽപിടിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു വരപ്പെടുന്നവരുടെ കഷ്ടപ്പാടുകളും മറുഒരു ഭാഗത്തു് അനവധി വസ്തുക്കളുടെ ലേലം നടത്തുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു വസ്തു ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർ അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന കഷ്ടപ്പാടുകളും ഹൃദയവുമുള്ളവർക്കു നോക്കിനിൽക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതല്ല. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സാഭവങ്ങളാണു് ദിനം ദിനം ഇപ്പോൾ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ നടന്നു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഏതാനും ആഴ്ചകാംക്കുള്ളിൽ പുറപ്പെട്ട രണ്ടു ഗസറ്റുകളിൽ നിന്നും മുപ്പത്തിരണ്ടോ മുപ്പത്തിമൂന്നോ പാപ്പർമാരുടെ പേരുകൾ വായിക്കുന്നതിനു ഇടയായി. ഈ സ്ഥിതിക്കു ഒരു ആഴ്ചകളിൽ അവസാനിക്കുന്ന ഒരാണ്ടു കൊണ്ടു തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ എത്ര പാപ്പർമാരുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു കണ്ടറിയേണ്ടതാണു്. ഇതു ദുഃഖങ്ങളുടെ ആരംഭംമാത്രമെ ആയിട്ടുള്ളു. എന്തെന്നാൽ ആദായങ്ങൾ കണക്കാക്കി ഓരോ തരം ഉത്തരവാദങ്ങളോടുകൂടിയ ഏർപ്പാടുകളിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടിട്ടില്ലാത്തവരുടെ സംഖ്യ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ വളരെ വളരെ കുറയും. ഇങ്ങനെ കൊടുക്കൽ വാങ്ങൽ കഴിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളവർ, ആ വക ഏർപ്പാടുകളുടെ അവസാനം കാണാൻ ഇപ്പോൾ ശ്രമിച്ചു തുടങ്ങീട്ടുള്ളതേയുള്ളു. ആ വക ശ്രമങ്ങളിൽ ഏർപ്പെടുകയും, അതു മുഴുവനായി പുറത്തുവരികയും ചെയ്യുമ്പോൾ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ നടക്കുന്ന മാറ്റങ്ങളും, മറിച്ചിലുകളും എന്തെന്നില്ലാത്തവണ്ണം വളരെ ആയിരിക്കും. കൃഷിചെയ്യാത്ത നിലങ്ങളുടെയെങ്കിലും കരം ഇളവു ചെയ്തു കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു ഞാൻ ഒരു സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ പറഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ ഒരു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ എന്നോടു പറഞ്ഞതു "അങ്ങനെയുള്ളവർ വസ്തുക്കൾ വിട്ടു കളയട്ടെ" എന്നാണു്. ശമ്പള തുകയുടെ ചിലവിൽ വല്ല നീക്കിയിരുപ്പും ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന പക്ഷം ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള വസ്തുക്കൾ വാങ്ങി കൈ അടക്കം ചെയ്യുന്നതിലേക്കു ഇതൊരു പറ്റിയ സന്ദർഭം അണല്ലൊ, എന്നു കരുതിക്കൂട്ടിയായിരിക്കാം അദ്ദേഹം അതു പറഞ്ഞതെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിച്ചു. ദുർബലന്മാരായ അളുകൾക്കു സാധിക്കാതെയുള്ള കായ്ക്കൽ സാധിച്ചു കൊടുത്തു അവരെയും കൂടി നില നിറുത്തി സംരക്ഷണം ചെയ്കയെന്നുള്ളതാണു് രക്ഷാകർത്തൃത്വം വഹിക്കുന്ന ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ യഥാർത്ഥമായ ധർമ്മം. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സന്ദർഭങ്ങളിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു എന്തു ചെയ്യുന്നു എന്നുള്ള ചോദ്യത്തിനു പറയാൻ കഴിയുന്ന മറുപടിയെ ആശ്രയിച്ചായിരിക്കും ഭരണീയരും, ഭരണകർത്താക്കളും തമ്മിലുള്ള ബന്ധം നിലനിൽക്കുന്നതു്. ഇതാണു് ഇപ്പോൾ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തേണ്ട ഭരണപരിഷ്കാരം. ഇങ്ങനെ ദുഃഖപരിപൂർണ്ണമായ ചോദ്യത്തിൻെറ ശബ്ദംമാ

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റൊലി കൊള്ളുന്ന വേളയിൽ പള്ളിക്കൂടംഫീസുകുട്ടി. അതെ, അബല കളായ പെൺകുട്ടികളുടെ ഫീസുകുട്ടി, അഞ്ചൽ സ്റ്റാമ്പുകൾക്കും മറ്റും വിലകുട്ടി, പരസ്പര സഹായസംഘങ്ങളുടെ ഇടപാടുകൾക്കു മുദ്രവില ചുമത്തി, എന്നിങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ പ്രവൃത്തികളിൽ ആരെങ്കിലും സങ്കടം പറയുന്നപക്ഷം അതിൽ അവരെ കുറ്റംപറയേണ്ടതില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സന്ദർഭങ്ങളിൽ വേണ്ടതു വന്നു. നേരിട്ട വിപത്തിനെ തടുത്തുനിറുത്താൻ ശ്രമിക്കുകയും, ഭാവിമോചനത്തിനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളെ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുകയുമാണ് ഇനിചെയ്യേണ്ടതു്. ഈ തത്വത്തെ അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കി ആയിരിക്കാം ഹൈദ്രാബാദു ഗവണ്മെൻറു സ്വദേശി വ്യവസായത്തെ പോഷിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിലേക്കു ഏതാനും മാസങ്ങൾക്കുള്ളിൽ രണ്ടു കോടി രൂപാ മാററിവച്ചതു്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ഉല്പന്നങ്ങൾക്കു ശരിയായ വില കിട്ടി ഉപയോഗപ്പെടത്തക്കവണ്ണമുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുകയെന്നുള്ളതാണ് ഈ വിഷമഘട്ടത്തിൽ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു്. അതിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ശ്രദ്ധ സർവ്വപ്രധാനമായിപതിയേണ്ടതു റബ്ബർ വിഷയത്തിലാണു്. എന്തെന്നാൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ മഹാരാജാവു തിരുമനസ്സിലെ പ്രജകളിൽനിന്നും അനേകകോടി രൂപാ ഇതിൻവേണ്ടി ചിലവായിട്ടുള്ളതാണു്. അതിൽ നിന്നും യാതൊരു പ്രതിഫലവും ക്രടാതെ ആവഴിക്കു ശ്രമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളവർ നശിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു. ഈ പ്രയത്നവും, അതിലേക്കു ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള കഠിന വ്യയവും, ഉപയോഗപ്രദമാക്കി തീർക്കാമൊ എന്നുള്ള പര്യാലോചന ഇവിടെ ഇപ്പോൾ അത്യന്താപേക്ഷിതമായ ഒന്നാണു്.

പ്രസിദ്ധ ധനാഢ്യനായ മി: ഫോർഡു റബ്ബർ അവിടെ ഉണ്ടാക്കാമൊഎന്നുള്ളപരീക്ഷണത്തിൽ ഏർപ്പെട്ടുകയും, അദ്ദേഹത്തിൻെറപരിശ്രമം ഇപ്പോൾ പ്രായോഗികമായിതന്നിരിക്കയുമാണു്. ഒരു വ്യക്തി ഇങ്ങനെ ഒരു ശക്തി ഉപയോഗിപ്പാൻ ഒരുമ്പെട്ടെങ്കിൽ ഒരു ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ എത്രമാത്രം പരിശ്രമിക്കുകയും, പ്രവൃത്തി പദ്ധതികൾ തുടർന്നുകൊണ്ടു ഇരിക്കയും ചെയ്യേണ്ടതാണു്. ഫോർഡിൻെറ പ്രഥമപരിശ്രമം അവിടെയുള്ള ഭൂമിയിൽ റബ്ബർ വളരുമൊ എന്നുള്ളതു അറിയുകയായിരുന്നു. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ആകട്ടെ അതു് ഫലപരിപൂർണ്ണമായി നിൽക്കുകയാണു്. ഇവ സംസ്കരിച്ചു സാധനങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിലേക്കു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ അഭിമുഖ്യത്തിൽ ഒരേർപ്പാടു സൃഷ്ടിക്കാമൊ എന്നു ആലോചിക്കണം. ഇൻഡ്യയിൽ മലബാറിലും

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[Mr. K. I. Kocheeppan Mappillai.]

തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലുമല്ലാതെ റബ്ബർ കൃഷി അധികമുള്ളതായി തോന്നുന്നില്ല. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിനെ അപേക്ഷിച്ചുനോക്കുമ്പോൾ മലബാറിൽ ഈ കൃഷി വളരെകുറവാണു്. മുണ്ടക്കയത്തു മി: മർഫി. എന്നധ്വര റബ്ബർകൊണ്ടു ഷൂസ്സിന്റെ "ഗോം" മുതലായ ചില വേലകൾ നടത്തിവിൽക്കുന്നതിനാൽ റബ്ബറിനു റാത്തൽ ഒന്നിനു ആറണയിൽ കുറയാതെ വില കിട്ടുന്നതായും, ഇതിലേക്കു ധാരാളമായ ഓർഡറുകൾ കിട്ടികൊണ്ടിരുന്നതായും കേട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഈ സ്ഥിതിക്കു റബ്ബർകൊണ്ടുള്ള ഇൻഡ്യയിലെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ നടത്തികൊടുക്കാൻ നമുക്കു ശക്യമാവുന്നപക്ഷം അതൊരു വലിയ ധനാഗമമാർഗ്ഗമായിതീരുന്നതാണു്. ഇതുസംബന്ധമായി ഒരു പര്യവേക്ഷണം നടത്തി ഒരു റിപ്പോർട്ടു സമർപ്പിക്കുന്നതിലേക്കു ഒരു കമ്മിറിയെ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നു ഈ സഭയിലേക്കു ഞാൻ ഒരു പ്രമേയം അയച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാണു്. സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനത്തിനുമുൻപു കാഞ്ഞിരപ്പള്ളിയിലുള്ള ധനാഢ്യന്മാർ ഈദൃശമായ ഒരു ശ്രമത്തിൽ ഏതാണ്ടു ഏർപ്പെടുകയുണ്ടായി. എങ്കിലും അവിചാരിതമായ ഒർ ഘടസന്ദർഭം അതിനു അനുവദിച്ചില്ല. ഇവിടത്തെറബ്ബർസംസ്കരിച്ചു ഓരൊ തരത്തിലുള്ള സാധനങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം ഒരു പദ്ധതി തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു രൂപീകരിക്കാൻ ഒരു വിഷമവുമില്ല. അതിനായി ചിലവാക്കപ്പെടുന്ന പണം ഒരു തമ്പാന്നൂർ റയിൽവെസ്റ്റേഷൻക്രൂടിയൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഒരു ജലവിതരണപദ്ധതി ക്രൂടിയൊ ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനായി വിനിയോഗിച്ചു എന്നു മാത്രം സമാധാനപ്പെട്ടാൽ മതി. ഇങ്ങനെചെയ്യുന്നപക്ഷം അത്യന്തം പ്രയോജനപ്രദമായ ഈ വ്യവസായം അഭിവൃദ്ധിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ കഴിയും.

അടുത്തതായി എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു "ക്രനിന്മേൽ കരുവെന്നവണ്ണം" തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ അനവരതം ഉണ്ടായികൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ജലപ്രളയത്തെകുറിച്ചാണു്. അനേകലക്ഷം രൂപാ വ്യയംചെയ്തു വെള്ളം വിലക്കുവാങ്ങാൻ ശ്രമിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തുള്ള കുന്നുകളിൽ സുഖമായി കഴിയുന്നവരോടു ഈ സംഗതികളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു പറയുമ്പോൾ നദീതീര പ്രദേശവാസികളായ ഞങ്ങൾക്കൊക്കെ ഏന്നവണ്ണം മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ കഴിയാതെ വരുന്നതിൽ ആശ്ചര്യപ്പെടേണ്ടതില്ല. ഇതുപോലെതന്നെ സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനത്തെകുറിച്ചു പറയുമ്പോഴും മറെറാരുകാര്യം അതിനെ വല്ലാതെ തടസ്ഥപ്പെടുത്തുന്നുണ്ടു്. എന്തെന്നാൽ എല്ലാമാസങ്ങളുടെയും നാലാമത്തെ ആഴ്ച ആകുമ്പോഴേക്കു ഒരു നാലാവു് ലക്ഷംരൂപാ തിരുവനന്തപുരം ഖജനാവിൽനിന്നും തുടർന്നു കെട്ടിവാങ്ങി ഈ പട്ടണത്തിൽ ചിലവാക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇതുകളുടെ

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ഉപയോഗം കൊട്ടാരംമുതൽ കുടിൽവരെയാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു തിരുവനന്തപുരം പട്ടണത്തിൽവന്ന സാമ്പത്തികാപകർഷണമെന്നും, ജലപ്രളയം എന്നുംമറ്റും പറയുന്നതായാൽ ഇവിടെയുള്ള ശ്രോതാക്കൾക്കു ഇതുകളിൽ ഏതാണ്ടു അവജ്ഞതോന്നുക എന്നുള്ളതു് സ്വാഭാവികമാണ്. ഈ പട്ടണത്തിൽഎത്തി ഏതാനുംദിവസം താമസിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഇതുകളുടെയെല്ലാം യഥാർത്ഥത്തെപ്പറ്റി അനുഭവക്കാരായ ഞങ്ങൾക്കുതന്നെ ഒരു വിസ്മൃതി സ്വാഭാവികമായിട്ടു വന്നുപോകുന്നുണ്ട്. ഫ 0 ള ൈ, ഫ 0 ള വ ഈ ആണ്ടുകളിൽ ഉണ്ടായതുപോലെ ഫ 0 ൻ-ൽ ഒരു വലിയ ജലപ്രളയം ഉണ്ടായികഴിഞ്ഞതിന്റെശേഷം ഒട്ടു മിക്കകാലങ്ങളിലും മിക്കവാറും അതിനു തുല്യമായ ജലപ്പെരുക്കം ഉണ്ടായികൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇതിനു നിവൃത്തിമാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതിനുള്ള ചില നിർദ്ദേശങ്ങൾ ഞാൻ ശക്തിയുക്തം കഴിഞ്ഞ സഭയിൽ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിരുന്നു. മണിമല ആറിനെ മാത്രമെങ്കിലും ഈ വിഷമസ്ഥിതിയിൽ നിന്നു മോചിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഒരു പ്രമേയം ഈ സഭയുടെശ്രദ്ധയ്ക്കു ഞാൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. അതായതു് "കുറപ്പുഴ" എന്നപേരിൽ അറിയപ്പെടുന്ന ഒരു കൈവഴി ഉള്ളതു വെട്ടിത്തുറന്നു വിടുന്നതായാൽ മണിമലയാറ്റിലെ വെള്ളം വളരെ വേഗം പമ്പാനദിയിൽ ചെന്നുചേർന്നു ഈ നദീതീരത്തിൽ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കം ഉണ്ടാകാതെ ഇരിക്കും എന്നുള്ളതിനാൽ അതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഉടനടി നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തണമെന്നുള്ളതാണ്. പമ്പയാറ്റിലെ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കത്തിനും ഇതു് സാരമായ പ്രയോജനത്തെ ഉണ്ടാക്കിതീർക്കുന്നതാണ്. ഡവലപ്പുമൻറു് ബോർഡുകാർ, എഞ്ചിനീയർ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകാർ മുതലായവർ ഇതിലേക്കു ശുപാർശ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. പ്രജാസഭ തുടങ്ങിയതുമുതൽ ഇതിനു മുറവിളികൂട്ടിതുടങ്ങിയതാണ്. ഇതുസംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള 'ഇൻവെസ്റ്റിഗേഷൻ' ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുവഴി നടത്തീട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇത്രമാത്രം അനുകൂലങ്ങളോടുകൂടിയും ജലപ്രളയംമൂലമുള്ള ആപത്തിൽനിന്നും ജനങ്ങളെ രക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിനും, അനേകലക്ഷം പറ നിലങ്ങൾക്കു പ്രയോജനപ്രദമായി തീരുന്നതിനു പയ്യാപ്പുവുമായ ഈ കാര്യം നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്താതെ കഴിക്കുന്നതു ജനസങ്കടം ശരിയായി മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ തുനിയാതെ കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടുന്നതിന്റെ ഒരു പരമലക്ഷ്യമാണ്. ഈയാണ്ടുണ്ടായ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കംകൊണ്ടു് കന്നികൃഷിക്കു സാരമായ നഷ്ടം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. മരണങ്ങളും സംഭവിക്കാതിരുന്നിട്ടില്ല. മറ്റനേകനഷ്ടങ്ങൾ ജനങ്ങൾക്കുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഈ വകകൾ ഉണ്ടെന്നു പറഞ്ഞാൽ, ഇല്ലെന്നുപറകയും, ആ വിധത്തിൽ അതു സാധിക്കയും ചെയ്യുന്നതിൽ പ്രഥമന്മാരാണ്.

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[Mr. K. I. Kocheeppan Mappillai]

ഇതുകളുടെ വിവരം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ അതാതു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ചുമതലപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നവർ. ഇതു ഈ വക കാര്യങ്ങളുടെ സത്യാസത്യങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചു് രക്ഷാമാർഗ്ഗം നേടുന്നതിനു വളരെ പ്രതിബന്ധമായി തീരുന്നുണ്ടു്.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*) : Sir, I am not inclined to heap words of praise on the Financial Secretary, who has, a few days back, handed over to us a financial document. In my opinion that document is fundamentally defective. It lacks in some of the vital principles for any system of budget formation in any country. I find that throughout the budget speech there is not a single expression of an independent thought. It is only a faithful copy, if I may say so, of the previous speeches with certain slight alterations the figures. There is an air of unreality about the whole performance, inasmuch as it fails to inspire confidence in the minds of the people. I searched in vain throughout the whole of the Budget for certain measures of relief for the ryots who form the backbone of the State, who supply the nourishment for the very existence of the State. In fact, it seems that the Financial Secretary has not understood the very well known principles of taxation, the productive capacity of the land as well as the price of produce, which sholud have been taken into consideration in fixing the rate of taxation. That the Financial Secretary has well nigh forgotten.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*) : Is it possible to revise the settlement rates ?

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*) : I am coming to that. The price of agricultural products about 14 years back, with certain small changes now and then, was almost double the current prices. The tax on land it may not be possible to revise at any time when the Financial Secretary wants it. But there are so many other items of taxation which are really a burden on the cultivators. These items are not taken into consideration when the revenue of the State is taken into account. Again, I submit that the productive capacity of the land also is progressively deteriorating, and hence the yield from land is becoming every day lower and lower. The purchasing medium is always reduced to a severe shrinkage, so much so, that it does not counteract the cheapness of food-stuffs. These facts do not seem to have been considered in the preparation of the Budget. I have to submit that the limit of the maximum taxable capacity has already been reached. It is at that time that the Secretary, or whoever be in charge of the finances, without having any account of any other systems, overburdens the ryots with items of heavier burden, as for example enhancement of fees for girls. These are burdens not on the wealthier class of people, but on the ryots who form the backbone of the State. Again, in these days there is always the excuse that the economic problems are world-wide. What I say is, to say that the problem is world-wide is a handy excuse. It saves us from hard thinking. It only sets people at idle talk. It

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saves people from any sort of active work. We must realise that though the general problem is world-wide it can be solved within the limits of the State itself to a large extent. There are several new sources of revenue. There are also certain items whereby Government itself can easily come to the rescue of the people. As in previous years, these items were not taken into consideration when the Budget was prepared this time also. It is true, Sir, we are not an isolated people. Our problems are also world-wide to a certain extent. I am not unaware of the fact that the whole world is faced with that problem. There is the Ottawa Conference which is intended to solve the economic problem of the world. It is perhaps their idea to make every nation, including the Indian Empire, an economic unit of a world economic federation. Leaving that apart, in the small State in which we are, we have certain resources to be developed which have not reached the maximum capacity to which they can be developed. It is statesmanship of a very high order, skill and sagacity that are required to grapple with the present situation. There are certain provisions in the Budget which are really worthy of congratulation, for example, the appointment of a Trade Agent, the provision for hydro-electric schemes, the provision for a sales depot under the Industries Department and the provision for the development of new industries. I also notice other useful provisions like the grants to the Madras Medical College, in the interests of our students who want to join that College, and to the Madanapalle Sanatorium. But in all these cases, there is something behind which compels me to withdraw my offer of congratulation. As I submitted at the beginning of my speech, the Trade Agent who is to be appointed, is to be a permanent officer in London. That idea is defective in certain respects; because, London is not perhaps the only foreign commercial market which we in this State depend upon. There are so many other commercial centres in the continent, in America and even in India. These places seem to have been thoroughly ignored. Again in choosing the person, so many things have to be taken into consideration. He must not only be well-versed with the economic conditions of the State, but also with conditions in England, with the manners and customs of the people there and with their occupations, and must know how best to advertise our goods. Then only the industries of our State, which have not sufficiently advanced and which are only in the infant stage, will get the necessary advertisement in outside markets. Especially at this time of terrible economic depression, the creation of this new post ought to have been postponed by the Government. It is, of course, taking away not less than Rs. 30,000 of our hard earned money at this stage. It would be well and good if all the benefits we expect from the appointment is derived. But it remains to be seen.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Without making this appointment, how is it possible to get better prices for our commodities?

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MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*): I will come to that.

As regards the hydro-electric scheme, I was saying that it was really a matter for congratulation. About six lakhs of our money has been diverted for that particular purpose. To see that it benefits the people of Kottayam, Alleppey and then Shertallai, is really a matter of praise. But there is this difficulty. Shertallai is a very neglected taluk. It is lacking in communications. We have not got even the ordinary privilege of walking from place to place in the village. I would very well have congratulated the Government if all this six lakhs had been given for communications in the taluk. Then the Government could have the consolation that at least one taluk has been provided with the necessary means of communications. We have been representing our grievances to the Government for years together. Nevertheless, I am glad that my taluk, which has been wholly neglected in the matter of communications, has at least the prospect of getting cheap electric power. It was only recently, when the Dewan visited our place, we anxiously waited on him and pressed the urgent necessity for certain ryots' roads. On a perusal of the Budget, I find that those roads have been omitted. There is no justification for that. After waiting for so many years we got only this trunk road, *i. e.*, the Alleppey-Arur road, which benefits the people of Alleppey and Cochin, more than the people of Shertallai. Unless cross roads and branch roads are also provided, our raw materials could not be taken to places outside. We have been bringing this to the notice of Governmentfrom very early times both in the Council and in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, in the form of interpellations, resolutions and representations. But not one of them the Government have taken into consideration. It would have been really a matter of credit to Government, if all the six lakhs allotted for the hydro-electric scheme had been allotted for communications in Shertallai so that they could have got the eternal gratitude of the people of Shertallai. In this connection I may bring to the notice of Government the condition of the Alleppey-Shertallai canal the opening of which was begun sometime back but which was stopped in the middle. It will not only provide us with means of communication but also will afford us irrigation facilities. That work has been stopped though some money was spent on it. Our hopes are all frustrated and it seems the Government are going to hand over the lands acquired for that purpose to the Land Revenue Department.

I wish to speak a word about the grant provided for in the Budget for 1108, for the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Madanapalle. I know, sometime back, there was a proposal here for establishing a sanatorium at Mahendragiri, or some other place in South Travancore. If that proposed sanatorium is developed by spending just half of the five thousand rupees now allotted in the Budget for payment of grant to the Madanapalle Sanatorium, it would be more convenient for the people of Travancore, and we can hope to attract even people from outside as the Madanapalle institution does now. It would have been a matter for pride and credit for the Government if that had been done

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In regard to the Department of Industries, I find that provision has been made in the Budget for several new industries. There is provision also for a sales depot. But, in the case of all these enterprises, there is lack of funds. Comparatively, very small amounts have been provided in the Budget for all these items. For instance, in the case of the sales depot, the provision is highly inadequate. The salesman must be an expert in the business; and unless a decent salary is offered a proper man could not be attracted. The chief officer in charge of the depot must be at least, on the grade of the ordinary expert in the Department of Industries. I am afraid, Sir, whether, considering the lack of funds, the provision made in the Budget is really going to be of any use to the people of Travancore.

I have a word to submit about the work that has been entrusted to the Retrenchment Committee. It has already been observed by many of my friends here that the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee have not been either paid heed to or if they have been paid heed to at all, the retrenchment effected so far has not been adequate enough to meet the needs of the situation. What we want now is not a reduction in the number of posts mainly, though it is certainly desirable that posts of doubtful utility are abolished as early as possible. This reduction in the number of posts has the risk of increasing the unemployment in the State. What we really want is a reduction in the salaries of the high-paid officials. That has become a vital necessity now. These are days, Sir, when, throughout the world, in all Governments, the salaries of officers have been cut. The Travancore Government is perhaps the only exception. There are some departments in which there is absolutely no justification now for the old high salaries being continued any longer. For instance, there is the Public Works Department. The works to be executed have been considerably reduced, and the officers of the Department really have very little work to do now; at any rate, their work is considerably less now than in past years. Still, the Government have a good number of Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers drawing very fat salaries. Where is the necessity for so many of them? What is the justification for the Government having so many of these officers now, and on the same old high salaries? Last year, sufficient funds were not allotted for public works; and, even out of the allotment made, a good portion was either allowed to lapse or was withdrawn by Government as a measure of retrenchment. This year also sufficient funds have not been provided for in the Budget for public works. There is still no attempt being made to reduce the salaries of these high-paid officers of the Public Works Department. They are really a costly surplusage and there is absolutely no justification in retaining all of them in these days of economic depression, especially on the salaries they were being paid in times of prosperity and plenty. Further, it has become a scandal here that posts are created to provide for persons, and not persons being chosen for particular posts as everywhere else. It has become absolutely necessary now to weed

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[Mr. K. P. Madhavan Pillai.]

out all unnecessary posts immediately. That alone would help the solution of the problem of the day.

There are also departments like the Public Health Department which do not justify their separate existence especially in these hard days. The Medical Department, the Sanitary Department and the Public Health Department can all be conveniently amalgamated and placed under one officer instead of each one of them having a high-paid head with a costly establishment. The Public Health Department swallows a good deal of our money. The Head of that Department gets a very high salary.

Further, there is another very deplorable state of affairs. Even now, during this severe economic crisis, the Government do not seem to have any hesitation in creating new offices. I find that practically all the savings, likely to be effected by the small measure of retrenchment given effect to by the Government, would be swallowed up by the new posts which are brought into existence.

In regard to the reduction in the salaries of officers, I would submit that at least the increments due need not be given effect to now and that the scale of increment be suspended until better times.

PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, the Financial Secretary has been complimented, by some members, on the Budget that he has presented, the surplus Budget as they call it, while other members have not been able to find their way to do it. For my part, I do not see any occasion either to compliment him or to criticise him. Because, after all, Sir, what is the Travancore Budget? The Financial Secretary has to try to find out what amount the Government can expect to realise during the coming year and then to adjust the expenditure to that. He never has to deal with important questions of policy. He is not concerned with any new schemes of public utility, any new activity for the uplift of the people. Sir, it was suggested to me by a friend recently, during casual conversation, that the Government of Travancore may as well frame their budget of expenditure of the coming year on the actual receipts of the current year; for instance, they may frame the expenditure of 1108 on the actual receipts of 1107. Of course, there may be some difficulty felt in the first year after this plan is adopted. It seemed to me that the idea was not bad, at any rate it was as good as the principle now followed in the framing of the budget. Perhaps, it may be opposed to accepted principles of budget-making. Still, it will be as reasonable as the method now adopted by the Financial Secretary. Therefore, Sir, I do not find any reason either to compliment the Financial Secretary or to criticise him on the Budget that he has presented. With these preliminary observations, I shall now proceed to certain specific provisions in the Budget.

It has been very earnestly emphasised this year that the people of Travancore are hard hit by the present economic depression. No

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serious attempt need be made to prove it. The Budget itself will show it. Wherever a tax is to be realised, which depends more or less on the will of the person paying it directly or indirectly, there is considerable fall. Wherever the tax has to be realised irrespective of the will of the person paying it, I mean land revenue, there the amount remains the same. The first item is lessened because the people are not able to pay, and they do not want to pay if they can help it. The second item does not show a substantial fall, because the Land Revenue Department is alert. The officers of the Department will not allow the men to make a default. They would put into use all the provisions of the law and compulsorily collect the revenue. That is the situation. There is considerable force, and nothing but force, in the statements made on this side of the House that, so far as the collection of land revenue is concerned, though the people are not in a position to pay, the officials, somehow or other, compel them to pay, and get the collections. Now, what is it that Government ought to set up before them ? They should set right this condition of affairs; they should do that even in normal times. Do we find anything really substantial in the Budget to show that the Government are really concerned with doing all that they can for promoting the interests of the people? The administration is going on in the usual way. The Departments are doing their normal work in a beaten track. There is no attempt to move this side or that and to see that the condition of the people is improved. Sir, I may refer to one or two small matters which would be of great help to the people. This House passed into law a Regulation, the Village Panchayat Regulation, to form Panchayats in the villages and to promote the interests of the people in the State. What has been done after that Regulation was passed ? It took years to frame rules under the Regulation. One or two years ago, after repeated demands by the people, rules were framed; and this time last year, it was anncunced that certain Panchayats would be brought into existence during the course of the year 1107. I am not aware of any Panchayat having been brought into existence in 1107, and I beg to know if it has been done. We find in the Financial Secretary's speech that four Panchayats will be brought into existence during the year 1108.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Provision has been made for six Panchayats.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I am thankful for the correction. For all the several taluks in Travancore we are going to have only half a dozen Panchayats.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): And these are only experimental Panchayats.

MR. A. THANU PILLI (*Trivandrum*): Yes. Whether the Government are really going to introduce them I am not in a position to say. Why was it that nothing was done in the year 1107 ? I am almost certain, Sir, that nothing will be done in this direction even in the year 1108; and at the commencement of the year 1109, probably, we would again see

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that a provision is made for 8 Panchayats for 1109. I refer to these because there is no real earnestness on the part of the Government to promote the interests of the people. That Regulation is conceived in a very good spirit, and is intended to improve the condition of the people. But then, it is not followed up by activity, and therefore with no good results. At the same time, as was very forcibly stated by my friend Mr. Nilakanta Pillai, we find that in certain directions, the Government are very active, and, it may be feared, even too active. For instance, I may refer to the Health Department itself. It is very good indeed to do all that is possible to improve the health of the people. But then, almost every thinking man, I am afraid, has his own doubts as to how far the scheme, now sought to be put into force, will be put into force to its full extent and as to whether the Government will be able to finance the scheme that has now been started. Of course, I do not want to be understood to be against the activities of the health scheme. Has the scheme been fully thought out, consistent with the limited finances of our State.? Then again, is it quite consistent with the national well-being in all its aspects to spend such large amonts on one item of national well-being to the detriment of or ignoring other items of national well-being? That is a matter which the Government have to consider. It is very good to put the health scheme into effect, but what is it that the Government are going to do to improve the economic condition of the people? Can this health scheme be of real use to the people? And, will it be taken advantage of by them when they are deeply sunk in poverty and misery? Sir, to me it appears that national well-being should proceed simultaneously in all directions. It is not enough to ignore many aspects of national life and spend lots of money on one particular aspect, when the people will not be able to take advantage of that activity without improving themselves in other directions. So, a well thought-out scheme of national advancement has to be placed before the Government and before the public. To me it appears that the time is come when we should put our heads together and evolve a scheme of national growth. I do not think for a moment that a settled scheme could be put into effect in one day or one year or even in a number of years. Government should have a definite scheme and should know where they are moving and how far they will be able to finance it.

MR. A S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Is there not some undertaking with the Rockefeller Foundation?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I know there is some understanding with the Rockefeller Foundation, but I do not believe that we can expect any body like them to finance a scheme in Travancore. It should be a scheme well thought out with reference to all aspects of national life. I may refer to the activities of one or two Departments in this connection. There is the Co-operative Department. No doubt, after repeated demands by the public and this House, a committee is going to be appointed, and it may be right that we wait till the deliberations of that committee are over and their

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report is submitted. But, I should also refer to the fact that the reports of many a committee have been on the tables of our officers without action being taken. And, if the report of the Co-operative Committee also is to share the same fate, then it will certainly be a calamity. There is much that requires revision and correction so far as the activities of that Department are concerned. In regard to the other development departments also, it is clear that their activities really require much more attention than they have hitherto been receiving. I am not going to dwell at length on them.

I shall now refer to a matter with which I am particularly connected. I mean the Retrenchment Committee. Sir, the Retrenchment Committee was accused of not making adequate proposals and the Government have been criticised for not acting on the recommendations made by the Committee. I may submit to the House that the Retrenchment Committee took, as far as possible, a very lenient view so far as officers are concerned, not only in the higher ranks but also in the lower ranks, and made very moderate proposals. That is quite true. You know, Sir, that the Committee was composed more of officials than of non-officials, and so the attempt was to make unanimous proposals as far as possible. For my part, I refrained from urging many needs that I could have otherwise done because we wanted to see that the proposals that we made should be carried into effect by the Government. I may tell the House that it is difficult to understand why many of the proposals that emanated from the Committee, under these circumstances, have not been accepted by Government. I may refer to one or two instances. The existance of an unduly large number of high-paid officials in the P. W. Department was referred to here. We recommended that one or two Executive Engineers, a few Assistant Engineers and some Sub-Engineers could be dispensed with. We specifically reported that the Executive Engineer in charge of the Workshops Division might go and his place might be taken up by an Assistant Engineer. In that Committee, the Chief Engineer was also present. I may submit to the House that the Chief Engineer also agreed that the Executive Engineer's post might be abolished and an Assistant Engineer put in charge. The only thing he wanted was that the Assistant Engineer should be given the administrative powers of the Executive Engineer. He admitted that a person with the status and pay and in the cadre of Assistant Engineers would do quite well for the Workshops. But I find, Sir, that the Government somehow decided upon retaining the Executive Engineer on a higher pay and disbanding the Assistant Engineer. That is a thing that I cannot understand. Of course, various other recommendations made by the Committee have also shared the same fate. The Committee was composed of the Financial Secretary, the Chief Secretary and others. Even those recommendations to which these members also agreed, Government did not care to give effect. It is difficult to see why Government should find it difficult to accept these recommendations especially in view of the various facts that these were made after consulting the Heads of the various Departments concerned, and as was said here, after attention being

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paid to see to the proper good working of these Departments. Now the charge is laid at our doors that we have not proposed retrenchment to a sufficient extent. If our recommendations had been accepted in toto, a saving of over Rs. 10 lakhs would have resulted.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): That includes Rs. 2·4 lakhs now provided for Agrasala.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I may make my position clear. I take into account the possible reduction of expenditure on account of Agrasala. I do not know why Government should find it difficult to abolish the Agrasala which is intended to maintain the members of only a particular community.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Karlikapalli*): Is it the opinion of the member that the Financial Secretary's figures are not correct?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): So far as the figures are concerned, they may be correct. I am referring to an item which is not included in the other list. The substantial abolition of the Agrasala is not included in it. If that and some other recommendations in respect of certain Departments, which were forwarded to Government after this list was prepared and which amount to nearly half a lakh, are also taken into account, it would be possible to reduce the recurring expenditure to the extent of ten lakhs annually, and this sum of Rs. 10 lakhs does not include the retrenchment that had already been made by Government, under contingencies, before the Committee began its sittings. That would come to Rs. 3½ or 4 lakhs.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): About Rs. 6 lakhs.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I am not sure whether all these Rs. 6 lakhs form recurring expenditure. We can fairly put it at Rs. 4 lakhs. So, if our proposals had been accepted, the amount would have been somewhere near Rs. 14 to 15 lakhs, and that would have been substantial.

PRESIDENT: Your time is up.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I want to refer to one matter. I want just a minute or two.

PRESIDENT: You may wind up.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, reference was made here with regard to the raising of fees in girls' schools.

PRESIDENT: You were speaking on that.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I refer to one matter, which particularly affects the Trivandrum Municipality?

PRESIDENT: No.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Then, I have only to sit down. There is no question of winding up, Sir.

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MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*) : സർ, ഈ സഭയുടെ നിരുപണത്തിനു വിഷയീഭവിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ബഡ്ജറ്റ് പ്രഥമദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ ചിലവിനെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ വരവുള്ളതായികാണുന്നുവെങ്കിലും അതു് ആണ്ടവസാനത്തിൽ കഴിഞ്ഞകൊല്ലത്തെക്കാളും കൂടുതലായകുറവിൽ കലാശിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഇവിടെ പല മെമ്പർമാരും പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞു. ഇപ്രകാരം ആണ്ടുതോറും വാസ്തവത്തിൽ വരവും ചിലവും തമ്മിൽ ഒരുപോലെ കാണിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ആഗ്രഹത്തോടുകൂടി കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതായ ബഡ്ജറുകളിൽ കാണാറുള്ള ന്യൂനതകളെ ഓരൊ സന്ദർഭത്തിലും ചൂണ്ടികാണിക്കുകയും അവയെ കഴിയുന്നതു പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനു ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രിട്ടറി ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തിൽ കുറെയൊക്കെ ശ്രമിക്കയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണു് എനിക്കുതോന്നുന്നതു്. അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥ ഭാഗത്തുള്ള മെമ്പർമാർ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നപ്രകാരം, പ്രത്യേകിച്ചും ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനു ഉതകത്തക്കനിലയിലുള്ള ഒരു ബഡ്ജറല്ല ഇതു് എന്നു പറയുന്നതിനു ഞാൻ അശേഷം മടിക്കുന്നില്ല. ബഡ്ജറിന്റെ ഓരൊഭാഗങ്ങളെ കുറിച്ചും എന്റെ സ്നേഹിതൻമാരിൽ പലരും പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു അങ്ങനെയുള്ള വിഷയത്തിലേക്കു പ്രവേശിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല.

ഗവണ്മെന്റെന്നപോലെതന്നെ ജനങ്ങളും സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനംകൊണ്ടു വല്ലാതെ പരുങ്ങുന്ന ഒരു സന്ദർഭമാണിതു് എന്നു ഞാൻ പറയേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. ജനങ്ങൾ അവരാൽ വഹിക്കാവുന്നിടത്തോളമുള്ള ഭാരം വഹിക്കുകയും മേലാൽ വഹിക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാത്തതായ ഒരവസ്ഥയിലേക്കു നീങ്ങുകയുമാണു് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്. അതു മിക്കവാറും ഗവണ്മെൻറുതന്നെ സമ്മതിച്ചു കഴിഞ്ഞിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നുള്ള പരമാർത്ഥം, ഭൂനികുതിഇനത്തിൽ കുടിശ്ശികവന്നിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യ ഈടാക്കുന്നതിനു കുറെമാസത്തെ അവധി കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നുള്ള ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ധർമ്മബുദ്ധിയിൽ നിന്നുംതന്നെ മനസ്സിലാക്കാവുന്നതാണു്. ഇങ്ങനെ ജനഭാഗത്തുനിന്നും എന്തെല്ലാം ഭാരങ്ങൾ വഹിക്കാമൊ അവയൊക്കെ വഹിച്ചു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ സഹായിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഉപദ്രവം വരാത്തനിലയിലുള്ള ഒരു ബഡ്ജറ് അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രിട്ടറിപ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതായിരുന്നു. ഈ ബഡ്ജറിൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഉപദ്രവം വല്ലതുമുണ്ടൊ എന്നു ചോദിച്ചാൽ ഇന്നു ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനു പണം തികയാതെയിരിക്കുന്നതു ജനങ്ങൾക്കുപദ്രവമാണു എന്നെപറയുവാൻതരമുള്ളു. റിട്ടഞ്ചുമെൻറു കമ്മിറ്റിനിയമിക്കയും അവർ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ചില

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[Mr. P. S. Mahomed.]

വിനം കുറക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്ന എന്നു കേട്ടപ്പോൾ ജനങ്ങൾക്കുഒരാശ്വാസമുണ്ടായി. ജനങ്ങളെക്കൂടി സഹായിക്കത്തക്കനിലയിൽ — അവരുടെ നികുതിഭാരം കുറയത്തക്കനിലയിൽ—ഈ കമ്മിറ്റി ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ചിലവുകളെനിയന്ത്രിക്കുമെന്ന വിശ്വാസംജനങ്ങൾക്കുണ്ടായിരുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ വ്യയനിയന്ത്രണത്തിനായിട്ടുള്ള ഈ കമ്മറ്റിയുടെ നിയമനത്തിൽ ജനങ്ങൾ സന്തോഷം പ്രകടിപ്പിച്ചു. എന്നാൽ മി; താണുപിള്ള പറഞ്ഞപ്രകാരം ആ കമ്മറ്റി എതുയും മൂച്ചുകുറഞ്ഞ കത്തി മാതുമെ ഉപയോഗിച്ചുള്ളു എന്നുള്ളതു ഞാൻ സമ്മതിക്കതന്നെ ചെയ്യുന്നു. അതിൽ കൂടുതലായിട്ടുപയോഗിക്കണമെന്നു എനിക്കഭിപ്രായമില്ലെങ്കിലും അവർ ഉപയോഗിച്ചസ്ഥാനം മിക്കവാറും തെറ്റിയിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു പറയാതിരിക്കുവാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ സാധുക്കളെ കൂടുതലായി സഹായിക്കേണ്ട കടമകൂടി ഗവൺമെൻറിനുണ്ടു്. ഗവണ്മെൻറു സാധുക്കളായ ചില ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ പട്ടിണികിടക്കുന്നതിനു ചീട്ടുകൊടുക്കുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായം സ്വീകരിച്ചതു ഒട്ടും നന്നായില്ല തൊഴിലാളികൾക്കു തൊഴിൽകിട്ടുന്നില്ല എന്നുമുറവിളികൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നകാലത്തു, ഗവണ്മെൻറു പി. ഡബ്ലിയു. ഡിയിൽ ധാരാളം പണം ചെലവു സാധുക്കൾക്കു വേല ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ കുറെ ശമ്പളക്കാരുടെ തുച്ഛമായ സംഖ്യക്കുവേണ്ടി അവരുടെ ഇന്നത്തെ ഉപജീവനമാർഗ്ഗം കൂടി നശിപ്പിക്കത്തക്ക നിലയിൽ അവരെ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിൽനിന്നും പിരിച്ചയച്ചതു സാധുജനങ്ങളോടു ചെയ്ത ഒരു ദ്രോഹമല്ലെ?

റിട്ടെഞ്ചു കമ്മിറ്റി ന്യായമായി പ്രവർത്തിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നതന്നെയാണു് എന്റെ വിശ്വാസം. എന്നാൽ അവർ പെൺപള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങളിൽ ഫീസു വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കയും പ്രാഥമിക വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനു ഫീസ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനു ആഗ്രഹിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നുണ്ടു്. വാസ്തവത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ നടത്തിപ്പിനു ആതു കൂടിയെ കഴിയൂ എന്നുള്ള ഒരുസന്ദർഭത്തിലാണെങ്കിൽ ഇതല്ല ഇതിനെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ സംഖ്യയും ഏതു വിധത്തിലെങ്കിലും എന്തു കഷ്ടതകൾ അനുഭവിച്ചും തരുന്നതിനുജനങ്ങൾ സന്നദ്ധരായിരിക്കും. എന്നാൽ നാളതുവരെ ഗവണ്മെൻറുഭാഗത്തുനിന്നും ഉള്ള പ്രവൃത്തികൊണ്ടു ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ധരിക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു ഗവണ്മെൻറു എങ്ങനെയെങ്കിലും ജനങ്ങളെ പിഴിഞ്ഞെടുത്തു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ലാഭത്തെ മാത്രം ലാക്കാക്കി പണമുണ്ടാക്കുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതാണു്. ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ തങ്ങളുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽ

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ഒരു നല്ല സംഖ്യ കൂടുതൽ രാജ്യക്ഷേമത്തിനുവേണ്ടി പ്രവർത്തിക്കാൻ സന്നദ്ധരാണെന്നു കാണിച്ചാൽ ഇപ്പോൾ കഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്ന ജനങ്ങൾതന്നെ കൂടുതൽ കഷ്ടത അനുഭവിച്ചും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ സഹായിക്കാൻസന്നദ്ധരാകുമായിരുന്നു. അയതുകൊണ്ടു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിൽ റിട്രെഞ്ച്മെൻറു വരുത്തി ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഇന്നുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള തെറ്റിദ്ധാരണയെ മാറ്റണമെന്നാണു് എനിക്കു ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്.

എല്ലാ വർഷത്തിലും ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ നിന്നും പൊതുമരാമത്തു വകുപ്പിലേക്കു് ആണ്ടുതോറും അനുവദിക്കുന്ന തുക കൂടുതൽ കൂടുതൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതായി കാണാം. അതു പൊതുജന ഹിതത്തിനു വിരോധമാണെന്നുമാത്രമല്ല തൊഴിലില്ലാതെ ഉഴലുന്ന പാവപ്പെട്ട തൊഴിലാളികളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചിടത്തോളം ഗവണ്മെൻറു തീരെ ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ളതിനു ഒരു ലക്ഷ്യം കൂടിയാകുന്നു. എവിടെനോക്കിയാലും തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മ. തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മവന്നതു കൊണ്ടു് തൊഴിൽശാലകളിൽപോലും ധാരാളം വേലക്കാരെ കിട്ടുമെന്നുള്ളതിനാൽ തൊഴിലാളികളുടെ കൂലി കുറച്ചുവരുന്നു. ഗവണ്മെൻറു ജോലികൾ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം തൊഴിലില്ലാത്തവർക്കു തൊഴിൽ കിട്ടുന്നതിനു പുറമെ തൊഴിൽ ശാലകളിൽ ജോലിചെയ്യുന്നവരുടെ കൂലി കുറയ്ക്കാതിരിക്കയും ചെയ്യാമായിരുന്നു. ഗവണ്മെൻറു ജോലി ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുന്ന സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ തൊഴിൽ ശാലകളിൽ കൂലി കുറച്ചാൽ അവർക്കു വേലക്കാരെ കിട്ടുകയില്ലല്ലൊ. അതിനാൽ കൂലി കുറക്കുകയില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള തൊഴിലാളികളുടെ രക്ഷയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി ധാരാളം വേലകൾ ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ പണം ചേർക്കേണ്ടതായിരുന്നു. ഇതു് തൊഴിലാളികളുടെ കാര്യം പ്രതിവാദിക്കാൻ ഈ കൌൺസിലിൽ ആളുകൾ ഇല്ല എന്നുള്ള ദോഷം കൊണ്ടല്ലാതെ അതു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ തെറ്റുകൊണ്ടാണെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നില്ല. ഒന്നു രണ്ടു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ വലിയവേലകൾ ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തിൽ നടത്തത്തക്കനിലയിൽ വേണ്ടസൌകര്യം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു ഒരു വിധത്തിൽ തൊഴിലാളികൾക്കു സൌകര്യപ്രദമല്ലെന്നൊരു ചോദ്യത്തിനവകാശമുണ്ടു്. വാസ്തവത്തിൽ ആ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലുള്ളവർക്കു അതുപകാരമായിരിക്കുമെങ്കിലും പൊതുവെ രാജ്യത്തുള്ള എല്ലാ തൊഴിലാളികൾക്കും ഉപകാരപ്രദമല്ല. പൊതുവെ തൊഴിലാളികൾ എല്ലാവർക്കും ഉപകാരപ്പെടണമെങ്കിൽ എല്ലാ താലൂക്കുകളിലും കൂടെക്കൂടെയായി പൊതുമരാമത്തു പണികൾ നടത്തുന്നതിനുവേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥചെയ്യേണ്ടി

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[Mr. P. S. Mahomed.]

യിരുന്നു. അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്തിരുന്നാൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യം നടക്കയും വേലക്കാർക്ക് വേലകിട്ടുകയും ചെയ്യുമായിരുന്നു.

മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുടെ അടുത്തകൊല്ലത്തേയ്ക്ക് ൪൦,൦൦൦ രൂപാ ഗ്രാൻറ് കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനായി ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചേർത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതു ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തെക്കാൾ വളരെ കൂടുതലാണ്. ഇങ്ങനെ കൂടുതൽതുക ഗ്രാൻറ് കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനായി ചേർത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആക്ഷേപിക്കേണ്ടതായിട്ടുള്ളതു്. ഈ ൪൦,൦൦൦ രൂപാ ഗ്രാൻറ് കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനായി ചേർത്തതു നാളതുവരെ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുവന്നിരുന്ന ടോൾ ഗേറുകളെ നിറുത്തൽ ചെയ്തതുകൊണ്ടാണ്. എന്നാൽ അവ നിറുത്തൽ ചെയ്യുവെങ്കിലും ആവശ്യമുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ P. W. D. ടോളുകൾ സ്ഥാപിക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അധികാരമുണ്ട്. മുനിസിപ്പൽ ടോളുകളിൽ നിന്നും മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കു കിട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്ന ഒരു ലക്ഷം രൂപായുടെ ആദായം ഗവണ്മെൻറ് എടുത്തതു കൊണ്ടാണ് ഈ ൪൦,൦൦൦ രൂപാ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കു കൊടുക്കാമെന്നു തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തിയതു്.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): മുനിസിപ്പൽ ടോളുകൾ P .W. D. ടോളുകളുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലെല്ലാം ഉണ്ടോ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*) : മിക്കവാറും സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലുണ്ട്. ഒന്നു രണ്ടു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലെ ഇല്ലാതെയുള്ളൂ.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*) : എവിടെയെല്ലാമാണുള്ളതു്?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*) : പ്രധാന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലെല്ലാം ഉണ്ട്. നാഗർകോവിൽ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം, കൊല്ലം, തിരുവല്ലാ, കോട്ടയം ഈ നഗരങ്ങളിൽ ഉണ്ട്. ഈ ടോളുകളിൽ നിന്നും ഒരു ലക്ഷം രൂപായോളം കിട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടുവന്നിരുന്നതിനു് ൧൫,൦൦൦ രൂപാ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കു കൊടുക്കാമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറ് നിശ്ചയിച്ചതു എന്തു തോതനുസരിച്ചാണെന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): ഈ ടോൾ പിരിക്കുന്നതിൻെറ തത്വം എന്താണു്?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): അതിൻെറ തത്വമൊന്നും ഞാനിപ്പോൾ പറയുന്നില്ല. ഞാൻ സംസാരിക്കുന്നതു വേറെ വിഷയമാണു്.

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MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): ടോൾപിരിച്ചു റോഡുനന്നാക്കണമെന്നില്ലെ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*) : അതിലേക്കാണു് ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ഗ്രാൻറു് വച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): ഈ ടോൾപിരിച്ചല്ലെ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ഗ്രാൻറു് തരാമെന്നു പറയുന്നതു്?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*) : റോഡു ഗവണ്മെൻറു് തന്നെ നോക്കിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നാൽ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കു തികയാത്ത സംഖ്യ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് തരേണ്ടതായിട്ടു വരും. മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി എന്നുപറയുന്നതു് ജനപ്രതിനിധികളും ഗവണ്മെൻറും കൂടി സഹകരിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിക്കേണ്ട ഒരു സ്ഥാപനമാണു്. അതിനാൽ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയിൽ നിന്നും ലാഭം എടുക്കാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ശ്രമിക്കരുതു്. അങ്ങനെ ലാഭം എടുക്കണമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറു് വിചാരിച്ചാൽ ഒരു കച്ചവടംപോലെ ആയിപ്പോകും.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി പിരിക്കുന്ന ടോൾ റോഡിൻമേൽ ചിലവാക്കി വന്നിരുന്നോ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): ടോൾ പിരിച്ചുവന്നിരുന്നകാലത്തു് റോഡ് സൂക്ഷിക്കാൻ ആ പണം കൂടി ഉപയോഗിച്ചിട്ടും അതും മതിയാകാതെ വരുന്ന മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികൾ ധാരാളമുണ്ടു്. അങ്ങനെയിരിക്കുന്ന സന്ദർഭത്തിൽ ടോളിൻറെ അവകാശം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയിൽ നിന്നും വേർപെടുത്തി റോഡുകൂടി മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി എടുത്തു സംരക്ഷിക്കണമെന്നും, അതിലേക്കു ഒരു ചെറിയ സംഖ്യ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു വാങ്ങിക്കൊണ്ടു തൃപ്തിപ്പെടണമെന്നും പറയുന്നതു് ശരിയാണെന്നും തോന്നുന്നില്ല.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): ഇപ്പോൾമുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയിൽനിന്നും റോഡുകൾ നന്നാക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*) : ഉണ്ടു്.

MR. RAMA VARMA RAJA (*Edavagai*) : കാറുകളുടെ ലൈസൻസ് ഫീസ് കാണ്പൌണ്ടു് ചെയ്യുന്നവകയിൽ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കു് ആദായം കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ടെന്നറിയാമൊ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*) : ടോളുകൾ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുടെ അധീനതയിൽ ഇരിക്കുമ്പോഴും ആ അധികാരം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. കൃത്യനിഷ്ഠയോടുകൂടിയിരിക്കുന്ന മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികളെല്ലാം ഇന്നും അതിൽ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്.

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[Mr. P. S. Mahomed.]

ചില മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികൾക്കു ടോളുണ്ട്. ചില മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികൾക്കു ടോളില്ല. ഇതു ടോളില്ലാത്ത മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കും ടോളുള്ള മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കും തമ്മിൽ മത്സരത്തിനു കാരണമായി തീരുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു അതിലേക്കു ഒരു കാമ്പൈമെസ് ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടിയാണു ഈ ടോളുകളെല്ലാം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുടെ അധീനത്തിൽനിന്നും എടുത്തതു്. ഇതിനുംപുറമെ ടോൾ ലാഭമുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു ഗവണ്മെൻറ്തന്നെ വച്ചുകൊള്ളാമെന്നും തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തി. എന്നാൽ തിരുവനന്തപുരം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുടെ ടോൾമാത്രം എടുത്തിട്ടില്ല. അതെന്തുകൊണ്ടാണു്? തിരുവനന്തപുരം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുടെ ടോൾ എടുക്കാതെ മറ്റു മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികളുടെ എല്ലാം ടോൾ എടുക്കുന്നതു മത്സരത്തിനു കാരണമാവുകയില്ലെ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): അതുകൂടി എടുത്താൽ മെമ്പർക്കു തൃപ്തിയാകുമൊ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): തൃപ്തിയുടെ കാര്യം പിന്നെ പറയാം. ഇതു തലസ്ഥാന നഗരിയാണു്; പണം ധാരാളം വേണ്ടിവരുമായിരിക്കാം. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഒരു ഭീമമായ സംഖ്യ ഈ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കു കൊടുത്താലും ഞങ്ങൾക്കു വിരോധമില്ല. എന്നാൽ മറ്റു മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കുള്ള പ്രിവിലേജ് നശിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു അധർമ്മമാണെന്നു പറയാതെ തരമില്ല.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): മറ്റു മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികളിലെല്ലാം അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥപ്രസിഡൻറാണുള്ളതു്. ഇവിടെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥപ്രസിഡൻറാണു്. അതിൽ മെമ്പർക്കു സങ്കടമുണ്ടൊ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): പല സന്ദർഭങ്ങളിലും ഞങ്ങൾ അതിനുവേണ്ടി വഴക്കുപറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥപ്രസിഡൻറാണുള്ളതു് എന്നുള്ള ഒരു ന്യൂനതയിൽനിന്നും തിരുവനന്തപുരം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയെ കഴിയുന്നതും വേഗത്തിൽ മോചിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. സിറ്റി മുനിസിപ്പൽ ബിൽ ഇവിടെ വരുമ്പോൾ ആ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഞാൻ തിരുവനന്തപുരം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയെ സഹായിക്കാൻ തയ്യാറുമാണു്. എന്നു മാത്രമല്ല മറ്റു പല സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലുംനിന്നു ഇവിടെ വന്ന സുഖം അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന ഞങ്ങൾ അതിലേക്കു കടപ്പെട്ടിട്ടും ഉണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ പ്രിവിലേജ് എന്നുള്ള ഒരു ഭാഗം വരുമ്പോൾ നന്ദി കാണിക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഓരൊ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുടെയും സെൽഫ് റെസ്പക്ടിനു

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ഭംഗം വരാത്തവിധത്തിൽ പ്രവത്തിക്കേണ്ടതു ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ കടമ യാണു്.

ടെയിഡ് ഏജൻറിന്റെ നിയമനത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചാണു ഇനി എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു. ഈ വിഷയം ഇതിനുമുമ്പു പല ലജിസ്ലേ റീവ് കൌൺസിൽ യോഗങ്ങളിലും ഞങ്ങൾ ശക്തിയായി വാദിച്ചി ട്ടുള്ള ഒന്നാണു്. എന്നാൽ ടെയിഡ് ഏജൻറിന്റെ നിയമനം നട ക്കാൻപോകുന്നു എന്നുള്ള ഒരു ഘട്ടം വന്നപ്പോൾ അതു ഞങ്ങളെ വ ല്ലാതെ ഭയപ്പെടുത്തുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഈ സാമുദായികവഴക്കു ഇല്ലാത്ത ഒരു സംഗതിയുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു കാമേർസും ഇൻഡസ്ട്രിയും മാത്രമാണു്. ഇൻഡസ്ട്രിയൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രവത്തിച്ചു തുടങ്ങി യതിനു ശേഷം ചില ചില്ലറ വഴക്കുകൾ ഉണ്ടായിതുടങ്ങി. കാരണം ചില ആളുകളോടു ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രത്യേകം കരുണ കാണിക്കുന്നു എന്നു ള്ളതാണു്. അങ്ങിനെ കാണിക്കുമ്പോൾ മറുള്ളവക്കു മത്സരബുദ്ധി വരുന്നു. സഹോദരബുദ്ധ്യാ കഴിഞ്ഞുകൂടുന്നയാളുകളുടെയിടയിൽ മത്സര ത്തിനു സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാക്കികൊടുക്കുന്നതു ചില ഗവണ്മെൻറു സ്ഥാപ നങ്ങളാണു്. ഇൻഡസ്ട്രിയൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുപോലെയൊ അല്ലെ ങ്കിൽ മറു വല്ല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളുംപോലെയൊ ഉള്ള ഒരു സംഗതി യല്ല ടെയിഡ് ഏജൻറിന്റെ നിയമനം. ടെയിഡ് ഏജൻറു വിചാരി ച്ചാൽ ഒരു വ്യക്തിയെയൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഒരു സമുദായത്തെയൊ അയാ ളുടെ ഹൃദയത്തിന്റെ വിഷളത്വംപോലെ നന്നാക്കുന്നതിനൊ ചീത്തയാ ക്കുന്നതിനൊ സാധിക്കും. അതിനാൽ ഇതിലേക്കു നിയമനമാകുന്ന ആൾ ഈ മാതിരിയുള്ള ദുഷ്പ്രേരണകളൊന്നുമില്ലാത്തവനായിരിക്കണമെന്നു മാത്രമെ ഞാനിപ്പോൾ പറയുന്നുള്ളു.

The Council adjourned at 4-55 P. M.

P. VISVANATHA AIYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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